United Nations A/69/988

General Assembly

Distr.: General
15 July 2015

Original: English

Sixty-ninth session
Agenda item 123 (a)
Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: cooperation between the United Nations and the African Union

Letter dated 9 July 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Zimbabwe to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour, in my capacity as representative of the current Chair of the African Union, to draw to the attention of the General Assembly the decisions, declarations and resolution (Assembly/AU/Dec.569-587(XXV), Assembly/AU/Decl.1-6(XXV), Assembly/AU/Res.1(XXV)) adopted by the Assembly of the African Union at its twenty-fifth ordinary session, held in Johannesburg, South Africa, on 14 and 15 June 2015.*

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 123 (a).

(*Signed*) Frederick Musiiwa Makamure **Shava**
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
Permanent Representative of the Republic of Zimbabwe
to the United Nations
Representative of the current Chair of the African Union

---

* Available from http://summits.au.int/en/25thsummit/documents/decisions-declarations-and-resolutions-25th-ordinary-session-assembly-union.

15-13440 (E) 190815

Please recycle

United Nations A/69/989–S/2015/553

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
22 July 2015

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-ninth session
Agenda item 42
Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Seventieth year

Letter dated 21 July 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I enclose herewith two separate annexes recording the infringements of international air traffic regulations and violations of the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by Turkey (see annex I) and the illegal use of closed ports by Turkish warships (see annex II) during the month of June 2015. It should also be noted that Turkish commercial aircraft systematically use the illegal airport of Tympou.

Furthermore, I wish to inform you that Turkey and the occupation regime illegally issued notices to airmen regarding the dates of 10 and 17 June, relating to exercises of the Turkish air force and military navy.

The actions of Turkey are clearly aimed at undermining the sovereignty of the Republic of Cyprus, bolstering the continuing de facto division and upgrading the secessionist entity's status by claiming a purported airspace over the occupied territory of the Republic. Additionally, Turkey continues to systematically harass civilian and military aircraft within the Nicosia flight information region (FIR) via radio calls. Meanwhile, Nicosia FIR infringements and violations of the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus continue unabated. The policy of Turkey to persistently breach international law and defy international rules and regulations puts the safety of international civil aviation at risk, has a negative impact on the stability of the region and causes difficulties for air traffic over Cyprus. On behalf of my Government, I strongly protest the continuing infringements of international air traffic regulations and the violations of the national airspace and the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus by Turkey and appeal for their immediate cessation.

I would be grateful if you would circulate the present letter and its annexes as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 42, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Nicholas **Emiliou**

15-12411 (E) 300715

Please recycle

Annex I to the letter dated 21 July 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Airborne violations

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
1 June	1010-1139	One Cougar Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia flight information region (FIR) and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia air control centre (ACC).
	1332-1430	One Cougar Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
2 June	1020-1240	One Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1038-1826	One C-560 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1720-1807	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
3 June	0915-1040	One Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1125-1513	Two Turkish military helicopters infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1138-1159	One Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC, landing at the illegal airport of Tympou.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
	1440-1456	One Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC, having departed from the illegal airport of Tympou.
	2026-2101	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
4 June	0825-1020	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
5 June	0658-0948	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
6-7 June	2247-0101	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
8 June	1056-1131	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
9 June	1048-1115	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC, landing at the illegal airport of Tympou.
	1050-1150	One Cougar Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1056-1121	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC, landing at the illegal airport of Tympou.
	1138-1158	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC, landing at the illegal airport of Tympou.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
	1143-1204	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC, landing at the illegal airport of Tympou.
	1144-1230	One Cougar Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1150-1310	Three AB-412 Turkish military helicopters infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1320-1339	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC, having departed from the illegal airport of Tympou.
	1343-1359	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC, having departed from the illegal airport of Tympou.
10 June	1130-1242	Thirty-two Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1620-1800	Two Turkish military helicopters infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1634-1738	Twenty-eight Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
	1641-1718	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC, having departed from and then landing at the illegal airport of Tympou.
11 June	0745-1105	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	0946-1015	Two F-16 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
12 June	0949-1205	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC, having departed from and then landing at the illegal airport of Tympou.
	0958-1719	One AB-412 Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	0959-1252	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1012-1719	One AB-412 Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1102-1320	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC, having departed from and then landing at the illegal airport of Tympou.
	1117-1240	One Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
	1122-1253	Two Cougar Turkish military helicopters infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1201-1301	One Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1203-1721	One AB-412 Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1444-1703	Two Cougar Turkish military helicopters infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1507-1639	One Cougar Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1514-1640	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC, having departed from and then landing at the illegal airport of Tympou.
	1515-1702	One Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1517-1701	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC, having departed from the illegal airport of Tympou.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
	1520-1649	One Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1710-1729	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC, landing at the illegal airport of Tympou.
	1900-2010	One CL-215 Turkish aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1920-1940	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC, having departed from the illegal airport of Tympou.
13 June	1002-1056	One Cougar Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1131-1151	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC, landing at the illegal airport of Tympou.
	1336-1400	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC, having departed from the illegal airport of Tympou.
	1413-1514	Three AB-412 Turkish military helicopters infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
	1417-1435	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC, having departed from the illegal airport of Tympou.
16 June	0944-1054	One Cougar Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	0944-1140	One Cougar Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
17 June	0958-1009	One Cougar Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
18 June	0651-0725	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	0955-1115	One Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1200-1225	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC, landing at the illegal airport of Tympou.
	1455-1630	One Cougar Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
	1505-1600	One Cougar Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1610-1753	One Mil Mi-8 Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1725-1743	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC, having departed from the illegal airport of Tympou.
19 June	0951-1025	One Huey Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
21 June	1115-1135	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC, landing at the illegal airport of Tympou.
22 June	0558-0728	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1324-1345	One Turkish aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC, landing at the illegal airport of Tympou.
	1600-1615	One Turkish aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC, having departed from the illegal airport of Tympou.
23 June	1441-1623	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
	1601-1617	Two F-4 and six F-16 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
24 June	1019-1110	One Cougar Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	2125-2246	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
25 June	0806-1101	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1341-1522	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1406-1500	Two F-4 and two F-16 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	1442-1514	Two F-16 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
26 June	1205-1330	One Cougar Turkish military helicopter infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
28 June	0719-0837	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
30 June	0018-0135	One CN-235 Turkish military aircraft infringed international air traffic regulations by entering the Nicosia FIR without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.
	2048-2251	Two Turkish military helicopters infringed international air traffic regulations and violated the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by entering the Nicosia FIR and the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus without diplomatic permit and without contacting the Nicosia ACC.

Annex II to the letter dated 21 July 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Naval violations

Dates	*Nature of violation*
2-4 June	One AG-6 Turkish net-laying ship violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos.
9-12 June	One F-494 Turkish frigate violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.
9-13 June	One KAAN-33 Turkish patrol ship violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.
9-14 June	One SG-703 Turkish coast guard ship violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.
9-14 June	One SG-704 Turkish coast guard ship violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.
9-16 June	One SAR-35 Turkish patrol ship violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Ammochostos while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.
19-22 June	One S-352 Turkish submarine violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Kerynia while participating in naval exercises of the occupation forces.
24-30 June	One C-149 Turkish landing ship violated the territorial waters of the Republic of Cyprus and illegally used the closed port of Kerynia.

United Nations A/69/990

General Assembly

Distr.: General
23 July 2015

Original: English

Sixty-ninth session
Agenda item 68
Promotion and protection of human rights

Letter dated 9 July 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to convey to you information on the priority attention given in the Republic of Uzbekistan to protection of the interests and rights of children (see annex).

I would appreciate it if you could have the present letter and the attached information circulated as a document of the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly under agenda item 68.

(*Signed*) Muzaffar **Madrakhimov**

15-12477 (E) 280715 290715

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 9 July 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Uzbekistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Russian]

On the priority attention given to protection of the interests and rights of children in the Republic of Uzbekistan

In Uzbekistan, guaranteeing the rights of the child and ensuring health care and high-quality education for children have been national policy priorities since the early days of independence. Specifically, the legal underpinnings of the national education system are designed to bring about radical educational reform and to establish and foster a national human resources training system that meets the standards of a developed country.

In 1994, Uzbekistan ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child, making it one of the first international instruments to be officially adopted. Uzbekistan has also adopted a law guaranteeing the rights of the child. All instruments relating to the interests of the child and issues related to the rights of children are addressed in accordance with international standards.

The national Healthy Mother, Healthy Child programme ensures that women and children receive special care. As part of that programme, a State programme to further enhance overall reproductive health and protect the health of mothers, children and adolescents in Uzbekistan for the period 2014-2018 has been approved. This means that all women of childbearing age, children and adolescents now receive medical check-ups, and care is provided to prevent congenital conditions.

In 2014 alone, 6.5 million children enrolled in schools and preschools, as well as students in vocational training institutions and lyceums, underwent thorough medical examinations for the purpose of early disease identification and effective response.

Vaccinations are provided free of charge in Uzbekistan to all children under 2 years of age, which has made it possible to eliminate completely such diseases as diphtheria, polio and tetanus.

Currently, 92 per cent of children in Uzbekistan meet the World Health Organization development parameters. The Save the Children Health Worker Index has ranked Uzbekistan ninth among 161 countries in quality of health care provided to children and young people.

The country also places great emphasis on high-quality education for the younger generation. Some 60 per cent of the total annual national budget is allocated to the social sphere, with half of that going to education.

A unified lifelong education system has been adopted, based on the Education Act and the Act on a National Human Resources Training Programme. Under this system, the 12 years of general and specialized secondary education and vocational education are compulsory and free of charge.

Nine years of general secondary school are followed by three years of study in a specialized vocational training institution or lyceum, where each student studies

general educational subjects and also receives training in two to three occupational skills that are in demand on the labour market. This is a central feature of the national model.

There is, in addition, a system of enrichment education, which includes schools of music, sports and art, Barkamol Avlod all-round youth development centres and special interest groups. These provide focused and useful leisure activities for children.

Since independence, a total of about 9,500 schools have been built or renovated in Uzbekistan, as have about 1,500 lyceums and other training institutions, which have also been provided with up-to-date equipment and textbooks.

In 2015, 353 general education schools are undergoing construction, reconstruction or major renovations, and a total of 147 vocational training institutions and lyceums are undergoing major renovations at a total cost of some 400 billion sum. There are plans to build, rebuild or do major renovations on 500 general education schools by 2020, to include construction of 101 new schools. Major renovations to 810 vocational training institutions and lyceums are also planned.

Uzbekistan was ranked fifth in the world for the level of development of its education system in a 2012 study of human capital conducted by the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and the European Institute of Business Administration (INSEAD), one of the most prominent international business schools in the world.

In accordance with article 77 of the Labour Code of Uzbekistan, anyone who is 16 years of age or older may be legally employed. Under the Education Act, 12 years of schooling are compulsory for all children, which precludes the participation of minors in the labour market.

In 2008, Uzbekistan ratified International Labour Organization (ILO) Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, and in 2009 it ratified ILO Convention No. 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment. Both have been successfully implemented. The Act supplementing the Administrative Liability Code in connection with improvements to the laws protecting the rights of minors was adopted in 2009. This was done to increase accountability on the part of commercial entities and individuals for violations of the ban on child labour, as well as for violations of labour law with regard to persons under the age of 18.

Accordingly, new regulations have been added to the Code, increasing accountability for officials and others for violations of labour laws and the relevant protections for minors and for the employment of minors in jobs that could harm their health, safety or morals, as well as for coercing a child to work.

Article 241 of the Labour Code prohibits the employment of persons under 18 years of age in jobs with unfavourable working conditions, those that involve work underground and other jobs that may harm the health, safety or morals of this category of worker. Persons under 18 years of age may not lift or carry loads whose weight exceeds established norms.

Appropriate measures for the effective implementation of the ILO conventions are an important item on the agenda for collective bargaining between employers and trade unions. A general agreement between the Government, the Federation of Trade Unions and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry on socioeconomic issues for the period from 2014 to 2016 enjoins the parties to commit to strict compliance with ILO conventions. Similar commitments are contained in collective agreements at the sectoral, regional and local levels. In particular, virtually all collective agreements include provisions on compliance with the minimum age for admission to employment and prohibition of the worst forms of child labour.

The systematic work being done in this area is ensuring the prevention of child labour. A Coordinating Council on Child Labour has been set up under the management of the Federation of Trade Unions in order to make this work more effective. It is a standing, operational civic body consisting of representatives of the stakeholder ministries and agencies, trade unions, employers' associations and other civil society institutions.

The primary purpose of the Coordinating Council is to coordinate measures and pool efforts of government bodies and civil society institutions to implement national policy to eliminate the worst forms of child labour and improve the work in this area.

Efforts to eliminate child labour in agriculture and farming, as well as in small businesses and private enterprise, are being stepped up. In particular, work is ongoing to enhance the capacity of employers, farmers, ministry and agency staff, town and district *khokims* (local executive authorities), leaders of educational institutions and chairs of women's committees and of village citizens' assemblies. The Federation of Trade Unions has taken the initiative to ensure that all managerial skills training courses include study of national and international labour standards, including ILO conventions, with particular emphasis on the Forced Labour Convention and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention. There is a focus on awareness-raising, including the issuance of special brochures and training materials. Parents' meetings are held to increase awareness among both parents and their children.

The Coordinating Council has particularly stressed monitoring to prevent child labour in various sectors of the economy. For example, cotton fields are monitored in the autumn, and businesses are monitored at other times of year. The Council also holds monthly meetings to coordinate and further develop work in these areas.

United Nations A/69/991

General Assembly

Distr.: General
24 February 2015
English
Original: Spanish

Sixty-ninth session
Agenda item 16
Information and communication technologies for development

Note verbale dated 21 July 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to transmit herewith the report of the Chair of the International Conference on "New Scenarios of Political Communication in the Digital Sphere — 2015", held in Havana from 5-7 June 2015 (see annex), and would be grateful if you would have the present note verbale and its annex circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 16.

15-12600 (E) 290715 290715

Please recycle

Annex to the note verbale dated 21 July 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Cuba to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

International Conference on "New scenarios of political communication in the digital sphere — 2015"

Report of the Chair

The Chair of the International Conference on "New Scenarios of Political Communication in the Digital Sphere — 2015", held from June 5th to 7th in the Havana Conference Centre, welcomes the intensive and interesting discussions that took place between more than one hundred official delegates and experts from 34 countries and international organizations.

During these three days, key topics that concern all States were discussed, such as the use of information and communications technology (ICT) for the human, political, economic, social and cultural development of our societies; the technological sovereignty of nations; cybersecurity and Internet governance, as well as other problems related to these topics.

The ideas discussed and the national experiences that have been shared here constitute concrete recommendations for the participating countries, organizations and regional integration mechanisms. We expect that they will make a substantial contribution to the review of the ten-year history of the World Summit on the Information Society.

In that regard, we believe that:

- Greater regional and international consensus and more effective action by all States are indispensable for building a more just, equitable and socially inclusive information and knowledge society.
- We must continue struggling to eliminate the obstacles facing developing countries. The exercise of the fundamental rights to health, education and life remains beyond reach for millions of people throughout the world. Challenges such as these cannot be viewed in isolation from those arising from the development and global application of ICT. States must treat both groups of challenges equally in terms of their efforts and responsibilities in this regard.
- The digital divide is an issue that must not be put off, and is nothing other than the reflection of growing economic, political and social inequalities. We warn against the dangerous tendency to assess the digital divide exclusively on the basis of the amount of technology applied instead of the manner in which it is applied, consistent with the needs of each country.
- ICT development has become a cornerstone for the security of States. This must be interpreted from the sociocultural perspective as distinct from strictly utilitarian approaches, and conceived as a strategic practice that in its broadest sense would complement as well as guide political processes.
- ICT, per se, solves none of the problems countries are faced with, and so must be a means to an end instead of an end in itself. That is why a new ethical and transparent form of communication and education concerning the use of ICT

should be promoted, by means of strategies that motivate the new generation to develop a proactive approach and a critical understanding of reality.

- Work must be done to promote a firm commitment of educational systems to the teaching of communications, computer science and the Internet, using new pedagogical methods similar to those of popular education, as well as to regional and international cooperation in this field.
- ICT must be used to increase the knowledge capacity of peoples and develop their human capital. There is great risk of its being used for harmful purposes and not for the sake of the economic, cultural and political sustainability of nations.
- The resources allocated to the military sector must be used in the development of the computerization of societies and consistent with each country's progress.
- ICT must be considered as a substantial and incidental part of the most important development goals and objectives, and must play a greater role in the post-2015 development agenda.
- Work must be done to generate original content, which offers great opportunities for the promotion of heritage and cultural exchange among all countries.
- Civil society must participate in the decision-making process concerning these issues and must contribute to the design of research projects for the defence of technological sovereignty and collaboration platforms for the development and production of region-specific content.
- Concrete, effective and urgent cooperation measures must be adopted to counteract the growing militarization of cyberspace and the covert and unlawful use of computer systems to attack other States. These measures must be consistent with the social policies, principles and regulations agreed upon at the national and international levels.
- International cooperation must be strengthened to combat harmful use of the Internet, in particular cyberterrorism, cybercrime, and the propagation of xenophobia and racism, among other trends.
- Cyberspace sovereignty must be respected and hegemony opposed, particularly by discarding double standards regarding cyberspace security.
- We must work together so that the Internet becomes a zone of peace and prosperity and so that these issues are broadly discussed in the United Nations framework.
- Unilateral measures against States that impede universal access to the benefits of ICT must be strongly condemned, as such measures run counter to international law.
- We must express our concern regarding the nearly complete absence of international regulations concerning the Internet and cybersecurity, which leads to very harmful collateral effects on the peaceful and development-oriented use of ICT. We urge the preparation of an international code of conduct, to be approved and recognized by States.
- We must denounce and work to avoid the use of ICT for subversive, political, military and criminal purposes such as the theft or hijacking of information in cyberspace.

- People must be provided technical and scientific training with an awareness of risks in the area of cybersecurity.

- Cybersecurity cannot be considered from a solely technological perspective, as if it were nothing more than wires and computers. The reaffirmation of a decolonizing consciousness, through the production of our own cultural content on the web, is more important than the development and control of our infrastructures.

- Cyberspace and access to the Internet must be regarded as strategic resources and the common assets of all humankind.

- Hastening the discussion of Internet governance is vital, as that is one of the topics on which less progress has been made since the World Summit on the Information Society.

- It is therefore necessary to reiterate that Internet governance must be international, democratic and participatory in character, based on the Charter of the United Nations, international law and multilateralism.

- Greater participation of States in the management of the Internet is recommended, so as to design global policies, guarantee the stable, sustained and safe functioning of the Internet on the basis of international law, and increase the level of coordination among international institutions.

- Greater cooperation in the area of information and communications technology must be fostered between all countries, on equal terms.

- The management of critical Internet resources must be fostered in a cooperative manner and free from the control of monopolies. We must have an exchange on the best practices and alternatives for regional and international cooperation in order to promote the creation of root servers, the use of free software and sovereign fibre.

- Establishing intergovernmental agreements is vital in order to guarantee Internet security and achieve a peaceful, safe, open and cooperative cyberspace.

- States must invest in broadband, and strengthen their cooperation in the context of all the collaborative mechanisms to which they belong, with regard to connectivity and the generation of their own content, for the purpose of counteracting hegemonic influences.

- The technological and operational sovereignty of all nations must be guaranteed at the international level.

- We must confirm the need to create an international Internet security system that recognizes, among other things, the urgency of assessing a new Internet architecture.

- We must reiterate that the agreements of the World Summit on the Information Society that have not been implemented must be ratified.

In keeping with the spirit of the recommendations set out in this report, as well as in conformity with the proposals made repeatedly in the conference, the Chair of the International Conference on "New Scenarios of Political Communication in the Digital Sphere — 2015" will send this text to the United Nations Secretariat as an effective contribution to the follow-up to the agreements of the World Summit on the Information Society, as well as other regional integration mechanisms.

United Nations A/69/992

General Assembly

Distr.: General
24 July 2015

Original: English

Sixty-ninth session
Agenda item 124
Global health and foreign policy

Letter dated 24 July 2015 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly

1. The present letter on the work of the United Nations in response to the Ebola outbreak in West Africa covers developments from 1 June to 1 July 2015, the 270-day mark since the establishment of the United Nations Mission for Ebola Emergency Response (UNMEER). It records activities carried out by my Special Envoy on Ebola and UNMEER and provides an update on progress made in the Ebola response pursuant to General Assembly resolution 69/1 since my update of 16 June 2015 (A/69/939).

Current situation of the Ebola outbreak

2. As at 1 July, a total of 27,550 confirmed, probable and suspected cases of Ebola had been reported in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, in addition to 1 case recently discharged from hospital in Italy and cases in six previously affected countries (Mali, Nigeria, Senegal, Spain, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America). A cumulative total of 11,235 confirmed, probable and suspected deaths had been reported.

3. In June, the combined weekly incidence fluctuated between 20 and 27 cases in Guinea and Sierra Leone. In Guinea, the incidence remained between 10 and 12 confirmed cases. In Sierra Leone, the incidence decreased from 15 confirmed cases reported in the week to 7 June to 8 cases reported in each of the two weeks to 28 June. This is the lowest reported number since mid-May. On 29 June, routine surveillance detected a confirmed case of Ebola in Margibi County, Liberia, the first new confirmed case in the country since 20 March.

4. The geographical area of active transmission has remained the same since May in both Guinea and Sierra Leone, with seven districts and prefectures having reported a confirmed case between 1 and 28 June. Almost all transmission is now centred in and around the western coast of Guinea and Sierra Leone. In Guinea, the western prefectures of Boké, Conakry, Dubréka and Forécariah accounted for 39, 11, 15 and 35 per cent, respectively, of all confirmed cases during the same period. After more than a month without reporting a single case, the prefecture of Conakry reported five cases.

15-12238 (E) 280715

Please recycle

5. In Sierra Leone, Kambia, Port Loko and Western Area Urban (including the capital, Freetown) accounted for 33, 54 and 13 per cent, respectively, of all confirmed cases from 1 to 28 June; the other 11 districts reported no cases.

6. The epicentre of the initial outbreak, in the tri-border area around the Guinean prefecture of Guéckédou, the Liberian county of Lofa and the Sierra Leonean district of Kailahun, has not recorded a confirmed case for more than 190 days; it has been more than 120 days since the last confirmed case was reported from the Guinée Forestière region. Owing to the proximity to Guinea-Bissau of the recent cluster of cases in the Guinean prefecture of Boké, response teams from Guinea-Bissau were deployed to the border to assess points of entry, raise community awareness and strengthen the surveillance system. An epidemiological investigation team was also mobilized to ensure contact tracing across the border.

Progress towards ending transmission

Overall assessment

7. With persistent and fluctuating transmission week-by-week, community engagement, safe burials, case finding, targeted active surveillance and contact tracing are being strengthened in areas of continuing transmission to ensure that remaining chains of transmission are detected, contained and stopped. Community engagement remains of particular importance because resistance to the response continues to be a concern. In Liberia, an enhanced surveillance framework for priority communicable diseases and other events of public health importance is currently being implemented.

8. The identification of a first confirmed case in three months in Liberia demonstrates the importance of heightened surveillance and the need for continued vigilance. The World Health Organization (WHO) is working with partners in Liberia to trace all contacts, identify the source of infection and assess levels of risk. Additional epidemiological, infection prevention and control and social mobilization and community engagement personnel have been deployed from the national level to reinforce capacity in Margibi County. WHO, with support from the field presences of the United Nations Mission in Liberia, is working to ensure that surveillance and community engagement are further strengthened in all counties and that clear plans for the reactivation of Ebola response efforts are in place.

Progress towards meeting key targets

9. In Sierra Leone, Operation Northern Push was launched on 16 June. It has been designed to identify, contain and eradicate Ebola from infected areas in the districts of Kambia and Port Loko by employing strengthened surveillance, contact tracing and, when necessary, quarantine and by strictly enforcing existing bylaws. The strategy relies on the public to telephone a designated number to report people displaying symptoms or community deaths. Between 1 and 28 June, there were 1,611 alerts for people with Ebola-like symptoms and 6,606 burial alerts, of which some 99 per cent were responded to within 24 hours.

10. Following the decision to extend the 45-day reinforcement of emergency measures declared by the President of Guinea, a new reinforced surveillance campaign was launched in the prefectures of Boké, Dubréka and Forécariah, targeting communities that had reported cases in the past 21 days through enhanced

case finding. During that period, measures including restrictions on the movement of affected communities, the provision of free medical care and regular food distributions were put in place. An integrated team of epidemiologists, contact tracers and social mobilization experts from WHO and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) was deployed to the village of Koloteyeh, Forécariah prefecture, for the duration of the 21-day campaign. UNICEF has begun to distribute emergency supplies in the affected communities, including tents for the isolation of people under quarantine, and to provide refresher training for school staff.

11. In Guinea and Sierra Leone, contact tracing remains vital in understanding the chains of transmission and rapidly isolating contacts who become symptomatic. In Guinea, an average of 56 new contacts were registered per confirmed case, with 2,104 contacts under follow-up as at 28 June. Some 99 per cent of those contacts are being traced daily. In Sierra Leone, cases are distributed across three districts, with 1,489 contacts under follow-up as at 28 June. Some 98 per cent of those contacts are being traced daily, with an average of 23 newly registered contacts per confirmed case. Of the newly confirmed cases reported, 70 per cent arose from registered contacts in Guinea between 1 and 28 June, compared with 73 per cent over the same period in Sierra Leone.

12. In Liberia, the level of vigilance remains high as an enhanced surveillance framework for priority communicable diseases is being implemented. The framework, which includes community and cross-border surveillance components, leverages routine surveillance and support functions at all levels. It also involves regular monitoring and reporting in relation to 10 epidemic-prone diseases and public health events. The value of the approach was demonstrated by the detection of the first reported case in Margibi County. UNICEF, the World Food Programme (WFP) and partners have supplied food and hygiene kits to homes under voluntary precautionary observation, while response workers are monitoring population movements in the county.

13. In Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, current treatment capacity far exceeds need. Accordingly, WHO, in coordination with ministries of health and partners, has continued to pursue the safe decommissioning of surplus Ebola treatment centres. Each country will retain a core capacity of high-quality centres strategically located to ensure complete geographic coverage, with additional rapid-response capacity held in reserve; 8 core centres will be retained in Guinea, 5 in Liberia and 10 in Sierra Leone. As at 28 June, there were 7 core centres in Guinea, 6 in Liberia and 10 in Sierra Leone.

14. As facilities are decommissioned, district health facilities are being supported to safely assume responsibility for triage and isolation or referral of cases. Decommissioning planning has begun in Guinea. In Sierra Leone, UNICEF, in coordination with the national authorities, has decontaminated and closed 29 community care centres, leaving 17 operational across four districts. In Guinea, three of the initial six centres remain functional and a new isolation and transit centre has been built in Kamsar, Boké prefecture. In Liberia, the equipment and commodities to implement 16 rapid isolation and treatment facilities remain pre-positioned. Training to improve engagement with Ebola-affected people in health-care settings has begun. At a recent meeting of foreign medical teams in Sierra Leone, Ebola treatment centre workers received training and information on

how to offer support and build the communication skills of health-care staff to further improve the treatment centre environment.

15. Between 1 and 28 June, after two months with no new infections of health-care workers in Guinea, three workers were infected in Boké prefecture. Another was infected in the Sierra Leonean district of Port Loko.

16. There is sufficient laboratory capacity in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone to meet existing needs. In June, the number of operational laboratories, coordinated by WHO, increased from 9 to 10 in Guinea and decreased from 4 to 3 in Liberia and from 11 to 9 in Sierra Leone, for a total of 22. In the four weeks to 28 June, 2,602 new and repeat samples were tested in Guinea, 6 per cent of which tested positive for Ebola. During the same time period, 7,385 new samples were tested in Sierra Leone, of which less than 1 per cent tested positive. Of the 860 new and repeat samples tested in Liberia during the same period, none tested positive. In the four weeks to 28 June, the percentages of samples tested that were collected from dead bodies were 73 per cent, 41 per cent and 79 per cent in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, respectively.

17. Community engagement continues to improve and there have been very few incidents of refusals to cooperate. The need for effective community engagement remains a key priority in all affected countries.

18. The sufficient capacity to conduct safe burials at the national level notwithstanding, 11 of the 30 deaths from Ebola reported in Guinea between 1 and 28 June occurred in the community. Over the same period in Sierra Leone, 6 of the 20 deaths from Ebola occurred in the community. Unsafe burial practices remain of concern: 56 reports of unsafe burials were received by the WHO country office in Guinea between 1 and 28 June, while rumours of unsafe burial practices continue to be investigated in Sierra Leone.

Update on the operational activities carried out by the United Nations system through the Mission and its partners

19. The response of the United Nations system has focused on activities to achieve zero transmission, including reinforcing active surveillance, contact tracing and community engagement and mobilization. In Guinea and Sierra Leone, efforts are also under way to assist the Governments in restoring basic services and preparing for the transition to early recovery. In Liberia, response activities have focused on early recovery and longer-term strengthening of the health-care system. The International Organization for Migration (IOM) is providing technical assistance to the Government of Liberia in the updating of the guidelines for community event-based surveillance, ensuring alignment with the integrated disease surveillance and response strategy. IOM, the Ministry of Health and other partners are planning community event-based surveillance training sessions in Bomi, Grand Bassa and Grand Cape Mount counties.

United Nations partners

20. Following the increase in new cases in June, Médecins sans frontières is setting up a fourth Ebola management centre in Boké to support the Ministry of Health of Guinea. Its outreach and social mobilization teams continued to carry out activities in Guinea and Sierra Leone, with a particular focus on Conakry and

Forécariah in Guinea and Kambia and Port Loko districts in Sierra Leone. Its epidemiological team is investigating the resurgence of Ebola cases in Freetown. In Monrovia, its 50-bed paediatric hospital has been operating at full capacity.

21. The International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies continued to work with national Red Cross societies as the lead partner in safe and dignified burials. In June, teams from the Guinean Red Cross and the International Federation carried out 2,080 such burials. On 6 June, the Guinean Red Cross set up a mobile radio station in Dubréka and distributed solar radio sets for people to listen to Ebola messages. On 7 June, it took over swabbing in Dubréka, making it the sole organization responsible for swabbing in all Ebola-active regions. Its teams also disinfected 1,473 homes and transferred 122 patients to treatment facilities. In Sierra Leone, 55 Red Cross safe and dignified burial teams conducted 1,763 safe burials and disinfected 1,436 houses. The Liberian Red Cross and the International Federation have pre-positioned facilities in readiness for any outbreak. The safe burial of the case of 29 June highlights the continued preparedness.

United Nations system

22. To date, UNICEF and partners have raised the awareness of 3,655,000 households across the three most affected countries regarding Ebola prevention. In Guinea, the social mobilization and community engagement team played a key role in the 24-day emergency health campaign in the subprefecture of Tanéné that was launched on 7 June. During the first four days of door-to-door visits, social mobilizers reached 2,834 households. Through their efforts, 319 sick people were discovered, of whom 1 tested positive for Ebola. To measure the impact of the social mobilization efforts, a survey was conducted before and after the campaign. It demonstrated that understanding of the risks of transmission had improved significantly as a result of the efforts. In addition, the waiving of user fees as a result of the provision of free medicines to health centres saw consultations increase by 65 per cent. A new campaign designed in concentric circles around hotspots with door-to-door visits and closer monitoring has been combined with incentives for 150 affected extended families to remain close to their village and accessible.

23. In Western Area Urban of Sierra Leone, 1,154 households have been reached through intensified activities in marketplaces and at the bus terminal, including through the strategic placement of 180 hand-washing buckets. The mapping of partners for Western Area Urban has been updated, with 3,137 active social mobilizers recorded among 12 organizations. UNICEF and social mobilization partners are supplementing Operation Northern Push with the deployment of an additional 1,750 social mobilizers to target hotspots. In Port Loko, a daily one-hour radio programme was launched on the two most popular community radios in the district. Transport of water to quarantined households has been organized, as have the construction of pit latrines and the distribution of hygiene kits.

24. UNICEF is supporting government efforts to standardize school-based water, sanitation and hygiene infrastructure. In Guinea, more than 2 million people have benefited from household water, sanitation and hygiene kits; 35 boreholes have been rehabilitated in Boké and Kindia and an additional 15 community boreholes have been drilled in Forécariah to benefit in excess of 5,000 people. UNICEF, in partnership with a non-governmental organization, Search for Common Ground, used a mobile cinema to raise the awareness of 1,569 people through 57 screenings

of a special film promoting proper hygiene. In Sierra Leone, UNICEF and water, sanitation and hygiene partners have reached almost 1.5 million people with Ebola prevention messages. UNICEF continues to support 17 community care centres and 28 Ebola treatment units in eight districts. In all three countries, it continues to support care centres for asymptomatic children who are high-risk contacts for Ebola cases.

25. In June, WHO had 1,237 staff, including more than 400 epidemiologists, deployed in 68 locations in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. As at 2 June, it had documented more than 2,652 international deployments (including network and partnership arrangements) in Guinea, Liberia, Mali and Sierra Leone since the onset of the outbreak. In Guinea, it recruited 207 national workers to support continuing vaccine trials. WHO will sustain a large presence beyond the end of the outbreak to ensure sufficient surveillance capacity and to support the countries in the implementation of early recovery plans.

26. WHO has continued to coordinate and deploy international technical assistance from the Global Outbreak Alert and Response Network for nationally led response efforts, deploying 90 experts for critical response functions (56 in Guinea, 9 in Liberia, 23 in Sierra Leone and 2 at WHO headquarters). A further 57 experts are awaiting deployment. Since March 2014, WHO has deployed 840 experts from partner networks and 58 foreign medical teams from more than 40 partner organizations.

27. To support Operation Northern Push in Sierra Leone, WHO has deployed to the districts of Kambia and Port Loko more than 100 personnel, including epidemiologists, infection prevention control specialists, clinical mentors and geographic information system specialists. From 19 to 25 June, WHO and UNICEF community engagement and risk communication experts visited Sierra Leone to support the Ministry of Health and Sanitation, WHO and UNICEF country staff and other partners involved in vaccine trials and immunization programmes.

28. In June, WFP extended its emergency operation until September, retaining the capacity to care and contain as transmission continues in the affected countries. In Guinea, it is supporting government awareness-raising campaigns. In the first two weeks of June, its food supplies reached more than 17,000 quarantined people in Dubréka. Food deliveries are under way in Boké and Forécariah. It is also providing staff, fuel and additional logistical support to the campaigns. To support Operation Northern Push in Sierra Leone, it delivered food rations to quarantined households and provided vehicles to its partners and to the district Ebola response centres to transport mixed commodities. In addition, WFP has planned short-term support for severely food-insecure people in Ebola-affected areas during the peak lean season and expanded food assistance and social protection support for Ebola-affected groups. Targeting modality and beneficiary estimates in that regard will be supported by the preliminary results of the nationwide emergency food security assessments in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

29. Within the framework of its special operation, WFP is working with partners to build a stronger response system for the future through the transfer of knowledge and capacity to national institutions and personnel. It continues to support the implementation of the WFP-WHO joint collaboration across the three countries, establishing accommodation and field offices at designated sites.

30. The United Nations Humanitarian Air Service has transported more than 19,500 passengers throughout the region since the outbreak began. Its fleet currently consists of four fixed-wing aircraft and five helicopters, two of which are equipped for the medical evacuation of health and humanitarian personnel with Ebola-like symptoms. To date, the Air Service has performed 45 medical evacuations in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone.

31. In Guinea, WFP completed the construction of the Nongo Ebola treatment unit, which was handed over to Médecins sans frontières and will open on 5 July. In preparation for the rainy season, it is consolidating all logistics and storage facilities in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. In view of the possibility of deteriorating road conditions during the rainy season, new helicopter routes have been established in Guinea, as have four vehicle repair workshops in Liberia.

32. The WFP-led logistics cluster supported various campaigns by facilitating the establishment of base camps for humanitarian workers in Guinea and the transportation of tents to build the UNICEF base camp in Sierra Leone. Through the emergency telecommunications cluster, Internet services continued to be provided to 83 humanitarian facilities in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, ensuring reliable Internet access for more than 2,700 humanitarian responders. The cluster is planning to withdraw Internet connectivity in locations declared free of Ebola and retain it where transmission is continuing. It is also working on a transition plan to avoid service interruptions.

33. Under the joint collaboration between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and the World Bank, 48,000 bars of soap and 12,000 bottles of chlorine were distributed to Ebola-affected communities in Guinea and agricultural implements were provided to Guinean farmers. To mitigate the risk of exposure to Ebola through wildlife, in particular as a result of handling and processing bushmeat, a human-wildlife ecosystem interface early warning system is being established.

34. In Sierra Leone, IOM and implementing partners continued to train health-care professionals and front-line responders on infection prevention and control and clinical care. In the light of the decline in Ebola transmission, the number of trainees has decreased, falling from 150 per week in May to some 120 per week in June.

35. In addition, IOM is assisting in training some 2,000 health-care workers in four government hospitals: three in Freetown and one in Kambia. To respond to the Ebola outbreak in Magazine Wharf in Freetown, IOM deployed 32 staff, including social mobilizers to raise awareness, clinical experts to assess medical supply needs and trainers to build the capacity of first responders. The IOM health and humanitarian border management project is expanding activities at Lungi International Airport. It has deployed three flow monitoring point teams at the border crossing points in Gbalamuya, Kambia district, and two teams are to be deployed in Sanya, Bombali district. They will monitor health screening exercises, collect migratory flow data, raise the awareness of travellers of the need to wash their hands and of Ebola infection prevention and control measures, coordinate training of screening personnel and partner with the Ministry of Health and Sanitation and the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to produce standard operating procedures for land borders.

36. In Guinea, IOM continued to support 25 prefectural emergency operations centres with monthly office supplies, fuel for electricity generators and computers with Internet connections. It has rehabilitated buildings housing the Ebola operations centre in Boké.

37. In addition, to ensure safe migration and better health management, IOM is currently carrying out humanitarian health and border management activities at both the Guinea-Mali border and the Coyah-Forécariah-Pamalap-Kambia border crossings with Sierra Leone. To maintain effective checkpoint operations, it is providing tents, hygiene kits and other equipment at the borders. In Liberia, the midterm assessments of the cross-border operational plan concluded for Bong, Gbarpolu, Grand Cape Mount, Lofa and Nimba counties. The assessments were aimed at identifying gaps in coordination, preparedness and surveillance capacity in border towns in those counties. Further support was recommended for the expansion of community event-based surveillance in all communities. Related training in Grand Gedeh, Maryland and River Gee counties is under way.

38. The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has partnered with UNMEER to support contact tracing in Guinea through a mobile phone-based data collection application. In preparation for the recovery and resilience phases, UNFPA is collaborating with Columbia University and the Ministry of Health to monitor community maternal health indicators through the application.

39. In Sierra Leone, UNFPA continued to support 1,240 enhanced contact tracers and 234 contact tracing supervisors. As part of its support for Operation Northern Push, it provided 12 motorbikes to the Ministry of Health and Sanitation, while two vehicles are being used in the districts to support contact tracing activities. To facilitate movement during the rains, it provided 530 rain boots and 840 rain suits to response workers and reengaged an additional 77 contact tracers in the districts of Kambia and Port Loko.

40. In Sierra Leone, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is providing regular monthly Ebola risk allowances to some 3,000 repurposed Ebola response workers. More than 70 per cent of payments have been made through banks and the remainder through mobile network operators. Payments have been processed for all requests received as at 30 May. To support Operation Northern Push, it has deployed a network of 10 civil society organizations to monitor response activities in the districts of Kambia and Port Loko. In Liberia, UNDP has facilitated hazard payments for some 6,555 Ebola response and routine health-care workers covering the period from October 2014 to March 2015. Hazard payments for April and May 2015 are currently being vetted by the Government. With the exception of routine health-care workers responding to the current outbreak, the April and May payments will be the last.

41. The Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs continued to monitor humanitarian needs in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, providing operational and technical support to emergency preparedness and contingency planning mechanisms and assisting with preparations by non-governmental organizations for the International Ebola Recovery Conference to be held on 10 July.

42. In Liberia, the Office facilitated the roll-out of the health, logistics, water, sanitation and hygiene, protection, early recovery, food security and education clusters and supported the resident coordinators' fundraising, coordination,

information management and advocacy efforts. In Guinea, it provided secretariat and technical support to coordination mechanisms, strengthened field coordination in the areas in which Ebola transmission is active and prepared a forthcoming inter-cluster needs assessment. In Sierra Leone, it established an intersectoral coordination mechanism, facilitated the compilation of needs assessments and worked with donors to mobilize support for a capacity assessment project.

43. In Sierra Leone, UNMEER continued to draw down its programmatic activities ahead of its transition and handover of all operational functions to the United Nations country team. It provided financial incentives for contact tracers, social mobilizers and cross-border and inter-district surveillance teams, including in relation to Operation Northern Push. It also procured rations for Sierra Leonean police officers involved in Ebola operations, hired boats for use in riverine areas not accessible by road and distributed materials to support the operations.

44. With funding from the Ebola Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund, UNMEER has paid the salaries of 32 core staff of the National Ebola Response Centre in Sierra Leone. It has supported critical Ebola response surges at various times with more than $550,000 from the Trust Fund. In anticipation of the Mission's closure, the Centre has relocated its offices. The United Nations Office for Project Services in Sierra Leone has been selected to act as a financial service provider and will be responsible for paying the salaries of the 32 situation room and former UNMEER staff embedded in the Centre.

45. With funding from the Trust Fund, UNMEER has implemented 46 community-based projects in 13 Sierra Leonean districts, totalling $878,034. Owing to the increasing need, a request has been made for an additional amount of $500,000 to implement other approved projects that will support efforts to achieve zero transmission. UNMEER is handing over the management of the community-based project mechanism of the Trust Fund to UNDP. The Mission has provided $600,000 to its implementing partner, Catholic Relief Services, to provide office equipment and satellite telephones to the district Ebola response centres and the district health management teams in 12 rural districts of Sierra Leone.

46. In Guinea, UNMEER has funded 13 community-based projects from the Trust Fund, for a total of $934,759. The projects supported social mobilization and communication activities and assisted Ebola-affected populations through the provision of nutrition support, sanitation and condolence kits and cash incentives for Ebola response workers. With its closure, the Mission is transferring the management of the community-based project mechanism of the Trust Fund to UNDP in Guinea, including an unspent $1 million for new projects.

47. To enhance cross-border cooperation, UNMEER facilitated a meeting in Conakry of key national Ebola response stakeholders from Guinea and Sierra Leone. It was a precursor to a joint visit on 5 June by the Presidents of those countries to the border towns of Pamalap and Gbalamuya. During the visit, the Presidents agreed to extend emergency health measures and heighten border surveillance and cooperation. My Acting Special Representative was joined by my Special Envoy on Ebola at the meeting. Meanwhile, in Liberia, WHO is working with the Ministry of Health to strengthen surveillance in the border areas through, among other things, the expansion of community event-based surveillance, the strengthening and scaling up of integrated disease surveillance and response efforts, the strengthening of screening at points of entry and improved cross-border

collaboration. Aside from the Guinée Forestière region where the outbreak began, UNMEER has redeployed the remaining field operations to the most affected prefectures: Boké, Conakry, Dubréka and Forécariah. It has supported the "Forécariah 2" campaign, launched on 7 June, by providing free mobile health care and positioning surveillance teams in localities covering some 261,124 persons in 43,521 households.

48. As part of its drawdown process, UNMEER provided logistical support to the Ebola national coordination and response partners in Guinea by donating vehicles previously on loan to them, including 2 to the Ebola national coordination office, 4 to the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs, 5 to a non-governmental organization, Women and Health Alliance International, and 17 to WHO. In total, 79 vehicles have been donated. UNMEER facilitated the shipment of a donated heavy-duty incinerator to the regional hospital in Kankan. It has made arrangements to hand over to WHO 1,000 disinfectant dispensers, 3,330 litres of disinfectant liquid, a blood cell counter and an incubator. It donated 81 motorbikes to the Guinean Red Cross, 24 to UNICEF and 26 to WHO.

Activities of the Special Envoy on Ebola

49. My Special Envoy continued to provide strategic leadership and guidance to the Ebola response effort, including through weekly meetings of the Global Ebola Response Coalition. He continued to conduct outreach and advocacy with key Member States and donors with a view to mobilizing the resources needed to end the outbreak and to support the recovery efforts of the affected countries through, among other things, the International Ebola Recovery Conference.

50. During the reporting period, the Government of the Czech Republic and the United Nations African Mothers' Association, an international non-governmental organization, contributed $205,052 and $20,000, respectively, to the Ebola Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund, which is managed by my Special Envoy. As at 30 June, contributions totalling $140.7 million had been made to the Trust Fund, of which $133.6 million had been disbursed. To support advocacy efforts among response partners, my Special Envoy published a report entitled "Making a difference: progress report 2015" (available from https://ebolaresponse.un.org/publications) in which the global, regional and national response efforts and the results achieved to date are described.

Building resilience and supporting recovery

Ebola recovery planning

51. UNDP worked closely with the Governments of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone and with the secretariat of the Mano River Union to support them in costing and finalizing their recovery plans ahead of the International Ebola Recovery Conference. With support from my Special Envoy, UNDP worked to identify resource gaps, engage in advocacy with donors for new pledges of funding against the plans and support the organization of the Conference.

52. Ahead of the International Ebola Recovery Conference, WHO, in partnership with the Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunization and the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, organized a technical consultation in Accra that brought together representatives of the Governments of Guinea, Liberia and

Sierra Leone, bilateral cooperation agencies and international technical agencies to discuss modalities for supporting the implementation of the national recovery plans based on effective harmonization and alignment principles (International Health Partnership Plus). The participants identified the action needed to improve the integration of services and efficiency. WHO and partners pledged to continue to support core system needs in ways that would build resilience and avoid duplication and fragmentation.

53. Of the $518 million dedicated to the Ebola emergency response in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, the World Bank has disbursed 74 per cent. The Bank is reallocating the remaining funds to priorities linked to reaching and remaining at zero cases and to the rebuilding of health-care systems.

Non-Ebola health care

54. In all three affected countries, WHO is working to strengthen national awareness of and build capacity in infection prevention and control and patient safety practices. In Guinea, WHO is training 400 pharmacists to ensure that personal protective equipment and standard precautions for Ebola arrive at the front line regularly. It is also working with the Government to develop infection prevention and control and patient safety pre-service curricula for health-care workers. In Sierra Leone, WHO is supporting the establishment of a new infection prevention and control unit at the Ministry of Health and Sanitation and providing technical support for the implementation of infection prevention and control standards in health-care facilities in collaboration with the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Ebola Response Consortium. It is coordinating technical input for the development of the first national infection prevention and control guidelines and training package in Sierra Leone. The WHO infection prevention and control team in Liberia is supporting the Ministry of Health in the development of a comprehensive infection prevention and control training module.

55. In close collaboration with national Governments and partners, WHO continued to provide technical support in the management of pregnant Ebola contacts. It drafted the pregnancy section of a guidance paper on health care of contacts in homes under quarantine and contributed to the implementation of clinical care for pregnant women in quarantine.

56. A government-led, UNICEF-supported maternal and child health week ran from 11 to 18 June in all Guinean prefectures, except Boké, Dubréka and Forécariah where cases of Ebola persist. Health-care workers sought to vaccinate at least 80 per cent of children who had not been vaccinated or who had not had their entire series of vaccinations under the Extended Programme on Immunization. They also provided vitamin A supplements to at least 90 per cent of children between 6 and 59 months of age and provided pregnant women with folic acid and iron. In Liberia, WHO supported the national malaria control programme in a nationwide campaign with the distribution of 2,195,800 insecticidal mosquito nets.

57. The Government of Sierra Leone, with support from UNICEF, WHO and the United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, concluded a six-day integrated national measles and polio campaign on 10 June during which 1,205,865 children between 0 and 59 months of age (97 per cent of the target population) received the measles vaccine and 1,475,859 were vaccinated against polio (98.8 per

cent of the target population). UNICEF provided 1.5 million doses of the polio vaccine and 1.4 million doses of the measles vaccine, together with support to meet the operational costs and for social mobilization activities. It also supported the strengthening of cold chain equipment in the districts, provided 22 new solar refrigerators and a negative-pressure walk-in cold room and repaired refrigerators in the peripheral health facilities.

58. A coverage survey of the UNICEF-supported countrywide measles campaign that concluded in Liberia in May is being carried out at the county level. Preliminary national-level data show that coverage exceeded 98 per cent of the target population. A countrywide polio campaign was scheduled for the last week of June, during which an estimated 683,573 children between 6 and 59 months of age were targeted to also receive vitamin A.

59. In Sierra Leone, UNICEF supported 13 district health management teams with the organization of on-the-job training, coaching and mentoring for 165 chiefdom health supervisors, who will mentor and supportively supervise staff of the health facilities in their respective chiefdoms. It also supported the National Pharmaceutical Procurement Unit in redistributing free life-saving medicines for children under 5 years of age and for pregnant and breastfeeding women to 1,184 peripheral health units in all districts.

60. In Liberia, WHO continues to support the Government in ensuring improved vaccine supply and quality. Maintaining updated distribution plans at the national and county levels to ensure the regular supply of high-quality vaccines to all service delivery points remains a priority. In addition, WHO continues to work with the Ministry of Health to strengthen outreach activities in all health-care facilities through the revision of outreach plans, the implementation of planned outreach activities and the provision of incentives and logistical support for outreach.

61. WHO supported the negotiations of the Ministry of Health of Liberia regarding the emergency hiring and management plan, which was aimed at bringing more than 4,500 health-care workers currently working in national health facilities on to the government payroll. In Sierra Leone, WHO is working with the Ministry of Health and Sanitation and partners to mobilize support for the implementation of the first nine months of the five-year investment plan.

62. In Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, WHO is assisting in the strengthening of national response capacity in planning, implementation, data collection and monitoring with regard to mental health and psychosocial support by supporting a two-day technical consultation on the impact of Ebola on mental health.

63. WHO is assisting the Ministry of Health of Liberia to move towards the establishment of a national public health institute, including by supporting a leadership course targeting high-level Ministry officials, planned for July, and a structured study tour to relevant national Centre for Disease Control and Prevention offices.

64. WHO participated in a two-day meeting in Dakar organized by the West African Health Organization on the establishment of a West African regional centre for disease control, which will cover the 15 States members of the Economic Community of West African States, including Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone. WHO will be a member of the technical advisory board for the institution.

65. Together with the secretariat of the Mano River Union, the UNFPA West and Central Africa Regional Office launched a regional initiative focused on accelerating the attainment of the demographic dividend by empowering young people in the States members of the Union to contribute economically to the acceleration of recovery and development efforts.

66. In Sierra Leone, UNFPA is supporting the Ministry of Health and Sanitation in mitigating the impact of the Ebola outbreak on sexual and reproductive health and maternal health care. Its support includes the establishment of an effective referral system and sexual and gender-based violence prevention and response efforts. In addition, it is providing the Ministry with a package of support, including the development of protocols, quality assurance and referral systems and the provision of outreach services to women and adolescent girls. It is also supporting the Ministry to upgrade its primary health-care units to provide youth-friendly health services and train health-care workers on adolescent sexual and reproductive health.

67. In Guinea, UNFPA continues to build a resilient health system through the Mano River Midwifery Response initiative, with funding from UNMEER and the Government of Japan. In collaboration with the Ministry of Health, and to increase the provision of sexual and reproductive health services in communities, 50 midwives were recruited and deployed in 25 border health-care facilities. UNFPA has also been supporting the training of health professionals on sexual and reproductive health and assisting with the integration of gender-based violence modules in community health-care worker training programmes.

Protection

68. An estimated 18,242 children are registered as having lost one or both parents (or their primary caregivers) to Ebola but, as a result of strong kinship networks, fewer than 3 per cent have had to be placed outside family or community care. UNICEF is providing immediate social and economic support to those children and their caregiver families, but longer-term support is needed for the families to provide high-quality care for both their own children and those whom they have taken in. Of those registered children, 12,000 have received a minimum package of support. More than 323,000 children have received psychosocial support.

69. In Guinea, 5,427 of the 5,878 registered children have received cash transfers. In Liberia, of the 3,660 registered children, 69 per cent have received a one-off cash payment of $150 through the Ministry of Gender, Children and Social Protection. In Liberia, UNICEF is supporting the revitalization of birth registration and certification, which slowed down or stopped in many health centres over the past year. Assessments have shown that most of the 73,000 children born during the outbreak have not been registered.

70. In Sierra Leone, child protection efforts were strengthened through the deployment of four additional child protection staff to increase the monitoring of children in quarantined households and to provide technical support to the authorities and partners in responding to protection and psychosocial needs.

Education

71. More than 25,000 schools in Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone have been equipped with minimum hygiene packages for Ebola prevention; 124,000 teachers have been trained in Ebola prevention and 36,000 in psychosocial support.

72. The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology of Sierra Leone, in collaboration with UNICEF and partners, is monitoring adherence to safety protocols in schools, focusing on the hotspots of Kambia, Port Loko and Western Area Urban. Recent data from Kambia and Port Loko show that 88 per cent of schools are observing all three safety protocols in hand washing, temperature monitoring and cleaning. About 95 per cent are observing hand washing and temperature monitoring; the data are similarly positive in Guinea. UNICEF continues to support the dissemination of teaching and learning materials to schools and to children in quarantined households, including through the provision of photocopied lessons, so that learning is not disrupted. In addition, 41 radio stations in Sierra Leone are broadcasting learning programmes.

73. In Guinea, UNICEF and implementing partners have monitored how well Ebola safety protocols are being followed in schools in the regions of Faranah, Kankan, Kindia and Mamou. Overall, visits to schools show that teachers and pupils are adhering to the protocols. Twenty-one radio stations continued to broadcast education programmes, including key messages about Ebola prevention. The rural radio station in Forécariah continued to broadcast morning Ebola awareness-raising and evening education programmes. The Ministry of Education published the end-of-year examinations schedule, which is expected to begin in July.

74. In Liberia, UNICEF is supporting the Ministry of Education with the procurement and distribution of teaching and learning materials. To date, the materials have been distributed to benefit 29,776 pupils and 1,942 teachers in 120 of the targeted 995 schools in Montserrado County. UNICEF is also working closely with county and district education personnel to finalize distribution plans in the remaining counties. In total, 4,619 schools serving some 1.2 million children received infection, prevention and control kits. To ensure the effective implementation of safety protocols in all schools, all the 98 district education officers were trained in the use of the kits. They then trained two teachers and one parent-teacher association member from each school, bringing the total to 9,238 teachers and 4,619 parents.

75. In Liberia, UNICEF is supporting the Government's efforts to harmonize standards for water, sanitation and hygiene infrastructure improvements and hygiene promotion in schools. Water, sanitation and hygiene facilities in selected schools are being assessed. In the first phase, 140 schools in nine counties will receive a full water, sanitation and hygiene package that includes supplies, sanitation facilities that cater to the needs of boys and girls, waste management facilities, accessible hand-washing locations and school health clubs.

Economic impact, livelihoods and food security

76. There has been a slight improvement in economic activity following the decline in Ebola transmission and the restriction of the geographical spread of the virus.

77. In Sierra Leone, the WFP targeted supplementary feeding activity reached more than 300 beneficiaries in June, while almost 10,000 people received food assistance.

78. To mitigate the impact of a possible second poor planting season in Ebola-affected areas, WFP continued to coordinate food deliveries and seed distributions by the Government of Sierra Leone, reaching in excess of 21,000 people in June. WFP is providing logistical support to transport the seeds for a similar campaign in Liberia. In June, it procured more than 800 tons of rice and pigeon peas from smallholder farmers in Guinea and Sierra Leone.

79. In Liberia, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations conducted four community workshops, attended by representatives of 50 rural women's associations, in Bong and Lofa counties. It has trained representatives of 50 village savings and loan associations on microfinance and cash management and made conditional cash transfers to 150 women's associations in the most Ebola-affected areas of Bong, Lofa and Nimba counties, while activities are continuing to rehabilitate 90 ha of rice fields.

Preventing outbreaks in non-affected countries

80. WHO and partners are supporting ministries of health in priority at-risk countries in Africa for the implementation of operational plans for Ebola preparedness activities. In June, subject-matter experts were deployed in Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Mali, Senegal and Togo. Meanwhile, the 14 deployed WHO Ebola Preparedness Officers continue to support 11 priority WHO country offices for six months, while three experts in infection prevention and control, coordination and health logistics are supporting multiple countries over the same period.

81. Following the recent cases in Boké prefecture, Guinea, along the border with Guinea-Bissau, WHO, UNICEF and partners further increased their support to strengthen the capacity of Guinea-Bissau to detect and respond to cases should there be cross-border transmission. Additional support focused on the establishment of WHO sub-offices in the regions of Gabú and Tombali, which share a border with Guinea. In June, support was provided with epidemiological surveillance, local and international coordination, screening at points of entry and community engagement.

82. In Côte d'Ivoire, WHO assessed capacity and gaps in the national logistics system with a focus on safe case management and isolation, transport, communication systems and supply chain management. In Senegal, WHO supported the Operational Centre for Emergency Health Response in a string of field simulation exercises and drills run over two weeks to test the detection of a potential suspected case of Ebola and the management of that case until discharge or death at the Kalifourou point of entry and the Tambacounda Ebola treatment centre. In Ghana, a simulation exercise was conducted to assess the readiness and logistical capacity of the country's rapid response team. Simulation exercises are planned for July in Mali. In Togo, infection prevention and control support was provided over four weeks, including through the conduct of a training-of-trainers course.

83. As at 30 June, 50 per cent of priority countries, including all four countries neighbouring Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, had implemented at least 50 per cent of the Ebola preparedness checklist, compared with 7 per cent in December 2014. The average implementation rate is 44 per cent, with average rates by

component as follows: coordination, 49 per cent; rapid response teams, 45 per cent; public awareness, 57 per cent; infection prevention and control, 45 per cent; case management, 55 per cent; safe and dignified burials, 35 per cent; epidemiological surveillance, 54 per cent; contact tracing, 34 per cent; laboratory, 75 per cent; capacity at points of entry, 46 per cent; budget, 34 per cent; and logistics, 21 per cent.

Way forward

84. Important progress in combating Ebola continued to be made during the reporting period. In Sierra Leone, eight cases were reported in each of the two weeks to 28 June, the lowest case incidence since mid-May 2015. Those gains notwithstanding, there continue to be setbacks in efforts to achieve zero transmission. Concerns remain over the prevalence of unknown chains of transmission in Guinea and Sierra Leone. Six weeks after Liberia was declared free of Ebola, the body of a 17-year-old in Margibi County was confirmed positive for Ebola on 29 June, serving as a stark reminder that rigorous and sustained vigilance is necessary throughout the region until all the countries are declared free of Ebola. Combating this deadly virus will require continued collective resolve and strengthened response activities, including through increasingly fine-tuned community engagement, contact tracing and cross-border cooperation efforts in the affected countries.

85. I should like to commend the Government and people of Liberia for the swift action taken to investigate the new confirmed chain of transmission. I am confident that, with its experience, demonstrated resolve and commitment, and with the full support of key partners, Liberia will be able to contain the recent flare-up. Given the gravity of the outbreak, the re-emergence of Ebola has highlighted the effectiveness of the operational response strategy in strengthening national knowledge and capacity to be activated to identify and respond rapidly and efficiently to flare-ups as they occur. The vigilance of Liberia was evidenced in its response.

86. I commend the leadership of the Presidents of Guinea and Sierra Leone shown in their timely meeting in the border towns of Pamalap and Gbalamuya. That meeting, which demonstrated political commitment at the highest level, has been followed by strengthened response operations in the affected districts and prefectures. I urge everyone to ensure that active community engagement and surveillance efforts continue in order to avert future cross-border transmission and reinfection. I echo the sentiments of many, including the Presidents of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, that no one country in the region is entirely safe from the risk of infection until the entire region is declared free of Ebola.

87. Regarding the way forward, the global Ebola response is now much better equipped to adapt and target interventions in support of nationally led response efforts to meet the needs of the affected communities. The response to the last remaining cases remains challenging. The leadership, technical and specialized expertise and coordination of WHO in reaching and remaining at zero cases are increasingly critical at this definitive moment in the response. Communities are and will continue to be the driving force of the response as efforts to identify and uproot the triggers of transmission in the remaining affected localities continue. With a view to strengthening response efforts on the ground and addressing remaining hotspots, Operation Northern Push in Sierra Leone and a campaign of reinforced surveillance in Guinea are being implemented.

88. In Sierra Leone, the Mission's transition process has been completed and its operational functions were handed over to national partners and United Nations agencies, funds and programmes on 30 June. In Guinea, UNMEER is gradually winding down its activities and will hand over all operations by 31 July.

89. The United Nations remains steadfast in its commitment to supporting the Governments of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone in reaching and remaining at zero cases. As UNMEER prepares to close by 31 July, I have determined that the high-level, dedicated United Nations leadership to reach zero cases will remain in the countries beyond the lifespan of the Mission, under the oversight of WHO and with the support of United Nations country teams, until the end of December 2015. The United Nations agencies, funds and programmes, the United Nations Mission in Liberia and national and international partners have undertaken necessary operational functions, such as logistics, field crisis management and information management, to enable this seamless transition process. WHO, however, needs additional financial resources to cover the costs of the transition leadership arrangements. Resources are also needed by the United Nations and partners to support nationally led efforts to end the outbreak and to support initial recovery activities in the affected countries. The priority in the medium to long term will be to enable the people of the affected countries to have access to high-quality health care countrywide. The Ebola Response Multi-Partner Trust Fund has continued to be a useful source of financing for projects that are vitally important to the response. There is a need to continually replenish the Trust Fund. I therefore urge Member States, at this critical juncture, to sustain the financial and political support necessary to end the outbreak.

90. The International Ebola Recovery Conference will be held in New York on 10 July 2015 and afford an opportunity to show solidarity with the affected countries. I wish to thank the Presidents of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone, in addition to the Mano River Union, for their considered preparation in advance of the Conference. The potential participation of private sector actors will help to provide a holistic overview of the recovery activities intended to jump-start socioeconomic development in the countries.

91. I should like to thank the Presidents of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone for the leadership that they have continued to provide to the global Ebola response effort. Over the 10 months since UNMEER was established, considerable progress has been made in combating Ebola. Real challenges remain, however, in particular at this stage of the response when the focus must continue to be on achieving a resilient zero cases. We must not become complacent or discouraged. We must continue to encourage the affected populations not to become frustrated; their efforts are yielding considerable results and international support to the Governments and affected communities must remain nimble and adaptable. The United Nations system is fully committed to persevering in support of the people of Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone until the job is completed. I urge all responders to stay the course.

92. I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter to the attention of the members of the General Assembly.

United Nations A/69/993

General Assembly

Distr.: General
29 July 2015

Original: English

Sixty-ninth session
Agenda item 68 (b)
Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms

Note verbale dated 28 July 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The Permanent Mission of the Arab Republic of Egypt to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to enclose herewith a note verbale addressed by 27 Member States to the Secretary-General (see annex) in connection with General Assembly resolution 69/186, entitled "Moratorium on the use of the death penalty", adopted on 18 December 2014 by a recorded vote.

The present note verbale is intended solely to facilitate the circulation of the attached note verbale to all Member States as soon as possible as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 68 (b).

15-12897 (E) 050815

Please recycle

Annex to the note verbale dated 28 July 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Egypt to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

The permanent missions to the United Nations in New York listed below have the honour to refer to General Assembly resolution 69/186, entitled "Moratorium on the use of the death penalty", which was adopted by the Third Committee on 21 November 2014 and subsequently by the General Assembly on 18 December 2014 by a recorded vote. The permanent missions wish to place on record that they are in persistent objection to any attempt to impose a moratorium on the use of the death penalty or its abolition in contravention of existing stipulations under international law, for the following reasons:

(a) There is no international consensus that the death penalty should be abolished. The votes on this resolution in previous sessions of the General Assembly have confirmed this fact, and the issue continues to be a divisive one. Article 6 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights states, inter alia, that "in countries which have not abolished the death penalty, sentences of death may be imposed only for the most serious crimes in accordance with the law in force at the time of the commission of the crime";

(b) This view was reflected previously in:

(i) The note verbale contained in document A/67/841, in which the co-signing delegations expressed their persistent objection to any attempt to impose a moratorium on the application of the death penalty or its abolition in contravention of existing stipulations under international law, following the adoption of General Assembly resolution 67/176;

(ii) The note verbale contained in document A/65/779, in which the co-signing delegations expressed their persistent objection to any attempt to impose a moratorium on the application of the death penalty or its abolition in contravention of existing stipulations under international law, following the adoption of General Assembly resolution 65/206;

(iii) The note verbale contained in document A/63/716, in which the co-signing delegations expressed their persistent objection to any attempt to impose a moratorium on the application of the death penalty or its abolition in contravention of existing stipulations under international law, following the adoption of General Assembly resolution 63/168;

(iv) The note verbale contained in document A/62/658, in which the co-signing delegations expressed their persistent objection to any attempt to impose a moratorium on the application of the death penalty or its abolition in contravention of existing stipulations under international law, following the adoption of General Assembly resolution 62/149;

(v) The joint statement contained in document E/CN.4/2005/G/40, in which the co-signing delegations disassociated themselves from Commission on Human Rights resolution 2005/59;

(vi) The joint statement contained in document E/CN.4/2004/G/54, in which the co-signing delegations disassociated themselves from Commission on Human Rights resolution 2004/67;

(vii) The joint statement contained in document E/CN.4/2003/G/84, in which the co-signing delegations disassociated themselves from Commission on Human Rights resolution 2003/67;

(viii) The joint statement contained in document E/CN.4/2002/198, in which the co-signing delegations disassociated themselves from Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/77;

(ix) The joint statement contained in documents E/CN.4/2001/161 and Corr.1, in which the co-signing delegations disassociated themselves from Commission on Human Rights resolution 2001/68;

(x) The joint statement contained in document E/CN.4/2000/162, in which the co-signing delegations disassociated themselves from Commission on Human Rights resolution 2000/65;

(xi) The joint statement contained in document E/1999/113, in which the co-signing delegations disassociated themselves from Commission on Human Rights resolution 1999/61;

(xii) The joint statement contained in documents E/1998/95 and Add.1, in which the co-signing delegations disassociated themselves from Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/8;

(xiii) The joint letter contained in documents E/CN.4/1998/156 and Add.1, in which the co-signing delegations expressed their reservations prior to the adoption of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1998/8; and

(xiv) The joint statement contained in document E/1997/106, in which the co-signing delegations disassociated themselves from Commission on Human Rights resolution 1997/12;

(c) In his statement to the plenary of the Rome Diplomatic Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Establishment of the International Criminal Court on 17 July 1998, the President of the Conference declared that the debate at the Conference on the issue of which penalties should be applied by the Court showed that there is no international consensus on the inclusion or non-inclusion of the death penalty, and further that not including the death penalty in the Rome Statute would not in any way have a legal bearing on national legislations and practices with regard to the death penalty, nor should it be considered as influencing, in the development of customary international law or in any other way, the legality of penalties imposed by national systems for serious crimes. Accordingly, the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, which is only applicable to States parties, maintains that nothing in part 7 of the Statute affects the application by States of penalties prescribed by their national law, nor the law of States which do not provide for penalties prescribed in this part;

(d) Capital punishment has often been characterized by some as a human rights issue in the context of the right to life of the convicted prisoner. However, it is first and foremost an issue of the criminal justice system and an important deterring element vis-à-vis the most serious crimes. It must therefore be viewed from a much broader perspective and weighed against the rights of the victims and the right of the community to live in peace and security;

(e) Every State has an inalienable right to choose its political, economic, social, cultural, legal and criminal justice systems, without interference in any form by another State. Furthermore, the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, in particular Article 2, paragraph 7, clearly stipulates that nothing in the Charter shall authorize the United Nations to intervene in matters which are essentially within the domestic jurisdiction of any State. Accordingly, the question of whether to retain or abolish the death penalty, and the types of crimes for which the death penalty is applied, should be determined by each State, taking fully into account the sentiments of its own people, state of crime and criminal policy. On this question, it is improper to attempt to create a universal decision or to prescribe to Member States actions that fall within their domestic jurisdiction, or attempt to change, by way of a General Assembly resolution, the stipulations under international law that were reached through a comprehensive negotiation process;

(f) Some Member States have voluntarily decided to abolish the death penalty, whereas others have chosen to apply a moratorium on executions. Meanwhile, many Member States also retain the death penalty in their legislation. All Member States are acting in compliance with their international obligations. Each Member State has decided freely, in accordance with its own sovereign right established by the United Nations Charter, to determine the path that corresponds to its own social, cultural and legal needs, in order to maintain social security, order and peace. No Member State has the right to impose its standpoint on others.

The Permanent Missions to the United Nations listed below kindly request the Secretary-General to circulate the present note verbale as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 68 (b).

New York, 28 July 2015

1. Antigua and Barbuda
2. Bangladesh
3. Botswana
4. Brunei Darussalam
5. China
6. Democratic People's Republic of Korea
7. Egypt
8. Ethiopia
9. Guyana
10. Islamic Republic of Iran
11. Iraq
12. Jamaica
13. Kuwait
14. Libya
15. Malaysia

16. Nigeria
17. Oman
18. Pakistan
19. Qatar
20. Saudi Arabia
21. Singapore
22. Sudan
23. Syrian Arab Republic
24. Trinidad and Tobago
25. United Arab Emirates
26. Yemen
27. Zimbabwe

United Nations A/69/994

General Assembly

Distr.: General
29 July 2015

Original: English

Sixty-ninth session
Agenda items 14 and 15

Culture of peace

The role of the United Nations in promoting a new global human order

Letter dated 29 July 2015 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to submit to you the Declaration by the Participants of the Fifth Congress of the Leaders of World and Traditional Religions, held in Astana on 10 and 11 June 2015 (see annex).

I should be grateful if the present letter and the Declaration could be issued as a document of the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly under agenda items 14 and 15.

(*Signed*) Akan **Rakhmetullin**
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Kazakhstan
to the United Nations

15-13045 (E) 120815

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 29 July 2015 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Kazakhstan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: Arabic, Chinese, English and Russian]

Declaration by the Participants of the Fifth Congress of the Leaders of World and Traditional Religions

We, the participants of the Fifth Congress of the Leaders of World and Traditional Religions, united by common aspiration to peace, accord and cooperation to ensure a better future of humankind,

Expressing gratitude to the President of the Republic of Kazakhstan, His Excellency Mr. Nursultan Nazarbayev, for his noble initiative to host the Congress of the Leaders of World and Traditional Religions, as well as to the people and Government of Kazakhstan for their generosity and hospitality,

Acknowledging the important role of the Congress and the contribution of the Republic of Kazakhstan to the promotion of interreligious and inter-civilizational dialogue to build a peaceful, just and safe world in the twenty-first century,

Welcoming global and regional initiatives seeking to promote interreligious and intercultural harmony, strengthening the dialogue of religious leaders and politicians,

Noting the importance of the contribution made by world and traditional religions to the development of human civilization through the assertion of spiritual ideals and values,

Recognizing the important role of religion in building an atmosphere of mutual respect, strengthening family values and moral upbringing of the young generation,

Expressing concern over mounting interreligious and inter-ethnic tensions, political instability and military clashes in different parts of the world,

Condemning manifestations of all kinds of intolerance, including religious intolerance, and radicalism, that resulted in casualties and sufferings of the civilian population,

Underscoring that extremism and terrorism have no relation to the true calling of all religions,

Confirming our commitment to the implementation of agreements in the spirit of the main theme of the Fifth Congress — "Dialogue of religious leaders and politicians for peace and development",

Have agreed as follows:

1. To facilitate dialogue of religious leaders and politicians, international organizations and civil society to ensure stability and security, and prevent and resolve conflicts;

2. To call on all parties around the world involved in conflicts to cease violence, declare a truce and through negotiations reach an agreement to end hostility, protect civilians and find a peaceful resolution to all contradiction;

3. To oppose strongly the use of force to resolve any political and religious disagreements at the national and inter-State levels;

4. To call on political leaders of world Powers to stop the growing abyss of distrust in the world today, to end mutual sanctions and to use the mechanisms of the United Nations and other international organizations to overcome the divisions and restore peace and security in accordance with international law;

5. To facilitate dialogue of religious leaders and politicians based on the principles of equality, justice, mutual respect and peaceful coexistence;

6. To reinforce the conventional mechanisms and elaborate new ways of interaction between spiritual and political leaders for the sake of sustainable peace and development;

7. To ensure equal respect for world and traditional religions, for what they consider sacred and for the religious sentiments of believers, while acknowledging inalienable human rights to freedom of conscience, opinion, speech and choice;

8. To respect religious diversity while promoting dialogue between world and traditional religions;

9. To counter incitement to enmity, hatred and violence under the guise of pseudo-religious rhetoric;

10. To support efforts to counter extremism and terrorism, striving to root out them while displaying special vigilance to ensure that the fight against extremism and terrorism does not turn into a war against religions and their followers;

11. To develop further interaction of the Congress of the Leaders of World and Traditional Religions with the United Nations, international organizations for security and cooperation and other initiatives to foster global dialogue for peace and development;

12. To contribute to the education of youth, laying more emphasis on raising religious awareness, promoting religious tolerance and respect for family values;

13. To encourage media owners and publishers to cease using their media outlets, including web-based ones, as a tool to incite religious and sectarian divisions, reminding them of their moral responsibility, and to advise that they spread a culture of peace, accord and respect among religions, peoples and nations;

14. To join efforts of religious and political leaders, States and societies alike to address the most pressing challenges of the modern world such as poverty, hunger, epidemics, unemployment and the effects of natural and man-made disasters;

15. To welcome the initiative of Kazakhstan to host in Astana the Regional Conference on Countering Violent Extremism;

16. To hold the Sixth Congress of the Leaders of World and Traditional Religions in 2018 in Astana.

Astana, Republic of Kazakhstan

11 June 2015

United Nations A/69/995–S/2015/578

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
31 July 2015

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-ninth session
Agenda item 42
Question of Cyprus

Security Council
Seventieth year

Letter dated 29 July 2015 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 28 July 2015, addressed to you by the Representative of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus, Mehmet Dânâ (see annex).

I would be grateful if the text of the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 42, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Levent **Eler**
Deputy Permanent Representative
Chargé d'affaires a.i.

15-13001 (E) 110815

Please recycle

Annex to the letter dated 29 July 2015 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government, I am writing in response to the letter dated 21 July 2015 addressed to you by the Greek Cypriot representative in New York and circulated as a document of the General Assembly and of the Security Council (A/69/989-S/2015/553), which yet again contains false assertions similar to those made in his previous letters. In order to set the record straight, I would like to bring the following to your kind attention.

At the outset, regarding the claims of so-called "infringements of international air traffic regulations" and "violations of the national airspace of the Republic of Cyprus by Turkey", I wish, once again, to reiterate that flights within the sovereign airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus take place with the full knowledge and consent of the relevant authorities of the State, over which the Greek Cypriot administration in South Cyprus has no jurisdiction or right of say whatsoever. The civil aviation authority of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus is the sole competent authority to provide air traffic and aeronautical information services within its own national airspace. As to the false assertion regarding the "illegally issued notices to airmen", it must be underlined that activities within the Ercan advisory airspace, including issuance of notices to airmen, are carried out by and in cooperation with the relevant authorities of the State in accordance with article 3 of the Convention on International Civil Aviation (Chicago Convention).

Similarly, the assertion raised in the letter regarding the Turkish Cypriot ports is also baseless, given the fact that the Greek Cypriot administration has no jurisdiction or right of say over Northern Cyprus. This constitutes yet another attempt to distort the facts and the realities of the island. As noted in our previous letters, such allegations are based on the false and unlawful claim that the sovereignty of the Greek Cypriot administration extends over the whole island, including the territory, national airspace and territorial waters of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. This pretentious contention by the Greek Cypriot side ignores the present realities on the ground, namely, the existence of two independent self-governing States on the island of Cyprus, each exercising sovereignty and jurisdiction within its respective territory.

As to the repeated false allegations regarding Ercan Airport in the North, it should once again be underlined that the technologically up-to-date Ercan area control centre and airport in North Cyprus have been providing regular, reliable and safe air traffic services since the Greek Cypriot refusal in 1977 to provide air traffic services in the northern part of the island, in line with its isolation policy that has been imposed on the Turkish Cypriot people. Ever since, all flights within the sovereign airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus have taken place with the full knowledge and permission of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus Civil Aviation Department, over which the Greek Cypriot administration in South Cyprus has no jurisdiction or control.

The legislation of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus on aeronautical safety meets all standards and recommendations of the International Civil Aviation Organization, providing safe and swift navigation of aircraft landing at or taking off from Ercan Airport and using airspace of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

All airports in Northern Cyprus are in full conformity with international standards, and necessary investments have been made to keep up with the developing technology. The number of air traffic controllers has been increased in accordance with the increasing number of flights over the years, and the Ercan area control centre is in regular and close cooperation with the Ankara area control centre in order to ensure the safe conduct of all flights in the region. In 2014 alone, the number of passengers that used Ercan Airport stood at almost 3,250,000, while the projected number of passengers for 2015 is 3,500,000. Moreover, in 2014, around 25,000 planes used Ercan Airport for arrival and departure, and around 200,000 planes used the Ercan advisory airspace. The numbers are expected to be at around 27,000 and 210,000, respectively, for 2015. In that respect, it must be stressed that the Turkish Cypriot side is committed to upholding the highest standards in the field of air navigation safety in full conformity with the Chicago Convention of 1944, and that it is ready to cooperate with the Greek Cypriot authorities on this very important issue.

Continuous attempts by the Greek Cypriot side, through often-repeated false statements, to confer legitimacy upon the long-defunct "Republic of Cyprus" are futile, since the Turkish Cypriot people will never give in to their unjust demands. What would indeed contribute to a better atmosphere on the island would be for the Greek Cypriot side to stop misappropriating for itself rights and responsibilities that it does not legally have and to cease its hostile acts against the Turkish Cypriot people. Moreover, the Greek Cypriot administration should once again be reminded that its counterpart is and has always been the Turkish Cypriot side, not Turkey, and that its insistent denial of the Turkish Cypriot rights in the North of the island does not bode well for the prospect of finding a just and lasting settlement of the Cyprus conflict in line with the established United Nations parameters, which envisage a new partnership on the basis of the political equality of the two peoples of the island within the framework of a bizonal, bicommunal federation with two constituent States of equal status.

Availing myself of the present opportunity, I would like to call upon the Greek Cypriot side to discontinue such counterproductive propaganda tactics and focus on the negotiating process so that the current window of opportunity for a fair and durable comprehensive settlement can be seized. As the Turkish Cypriot side, we are committed to maintaining our constructive and positive stance within the context of your good offices mission in Cyprus and encourage our Greek Cypriot neighbours to follow a similar path.

I should be grateful if the present letter could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 42, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Mehmet **Dânâ**
Representative
Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus

United Nations A/69/996–S/2015/574

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
30 July 2015

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-ninth session
Agenda item 107
Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Seventieth year

Identical letters dated 29 July 2015 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Upon instruction from my Government, and with reference to the letter dated 24 July 2015 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council (S/2015/563), I have the honour to attach herewith a letter addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the President of the Security Council (see annex).

It would be highly appreciated if the present letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the sixty-ninth session of the General Assembly, under agenda item 107, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

15-13015 (E) 070815 100815

Please recycle

Annex to the identical letters dated 29 July 2015 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

[Original: Arabic]

On instructions from my Government, I wish to transmit the following information:

The crisis in Syria has lasted for four and a half years. During that time, Turkey has continually plotted against Syria by collaborating with terrorists, who have come through Turkish territory from more than one hundred States to join Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), the Nusrah Front, Ahrar al-Sham and other organizations associated with Al-Qaida. The Syrian Government has written numerous letters to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council documenting the Turkish plot against Syria.

The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic rejects the Turkish regime's attempt to portray itself as a victim acting in self-defence. Everybody knows that the Turkish regime has provided all forms of support to the terrorist groups. In so doing, it has flagrantly violated the relevant Security Council resolutions, particularly resolutions 2170 (2014), 2178 (2014) and 2199 (2015). For instance, as everyone is well aware, ISIL has been stealing petrol, wheat, cotton and antiquities in Syria and selling them in Turkey, with the knowledge of the Turkish regime, in return for weapons, ammunition and logistical services for its members on Turkish territory. Machinery from hundreds of factories in northern Syria has been dismantled, stolen and transported to Turkey. Indeed, Turkey has continued to train and arm terrorists from the Nusrah Front and other organizations associated with Al-Qaida. It has provided fire cover with rifles and rocket launchers while the groups entered Idlib governorate acting under the name Army of Conquest.

The Turkish Government's support for terrorism makes it directly responsible for the shedding of Syrian blood and the suffering of millions of Syrians at home and abroad.

The letter dated 24 July 2015 from the Permanent Mission of Turkey to the President of the Security Council (S/2015/563) refers to Security Council resolutions 2170 (2014) and 2178 (2014). It ignores Security Council 2199 (2015). This raises the question of whether Turkey is committed in word and deed to implementing those resolutions, which were adopted under Chapter 7 of the Charter of the United Nations. If Turkey and neighbouring States were committed to implementing the resolutions, 70 per cent of the factors underlying the crisis in Syria would be resolved. Article 51 of the Charter entitles the Syrian Arab Republic to defend its people and land against terrorists who are coming over its borders with the support of the Turkish regime and other regional States. However, the Turkish regime has no right to invoke Article 51, because it is itself the party exporting the terrorism to which it refers.

Syria and its armed forces are fighting against terrorism, as represented by over 70 extremist organizations that are funded, armed and trained by well-known regional States and international parties, foremost among which is Turkey. In their statements, United States military officials make no secret of the fact that numerous

regional States play host to training camps, which supposedly belong to the moderate opposition. Contrary to the claims set out in the Turkish letter, our armed forces are responding to the terrorist organizations ISIL and the Nusrah Front in many parts of Syria, while press correspondents have published pictures of Turkish soldiers exchanging greetings with ISIL members on the border between the two countries.

For years, Syria has repeated that terrorism has no nation, religion or borders. Syria has warned the supporters of terrorism that it would turn against them. Unfortunately, we have recently seen terrorism start to turn against its supporters. If Turkey now feels, four and a half years into the crisis in Syria, that it has a duty to confront terrorism, one might well say "Better late than never". But does Turkey genuinely intend to enforce the relevant Security Council resolutions by fighting ISIL, the Nusrah Front and the other terrorist organizations associated with Al-Qaida? Or is it merely making that claim in order to strike the Kurds in Syria and Iraq or, perhaps, for domestic reasons?

The Syrian Arab Republic is determined to continue combating terrorism and fulfilling its patriotic duty to defend and protect the Syrian people. It once again calls on the Security Council and the Secretary-General to assume their responsibility by prevailing on States to implement the counter-terrorism resolutions of the Security Council, particularly resolutions 2170 (2014), 2178 (2014) and 2199 (2015), and to take deterrent action against State sponsors of the terrorist groups ISIL, the Nusrah Front and other organizations associated with Al-Qaida. Syria reiterates that the definitive eradication of terrorism requires a collective effort, one that is binding at the regional and international levels and grounded in constructive cooperation and respect for the sovereignty of States and the interests of their peoples.

(*Signed*) Bashar **Ja'afari**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/69/997–S/2015/591

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
4 August 2015
English
Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Sixty-ninth session
Agenda item 35
The situation in the Middle East

Security Council
Seventieth year

Identical letters dated 27 July 2015 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from my Government, I transmit to you herewith a statistical summary of Israeli violations of Security Council resolution 1701 (2006) committed during the month of June 2015 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex issued as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 35, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Caroline **Ziade**
Chargé d'affaires a.i

15-13170 (E) 170815 210815

Please recycle

Annex to the identical letters dated 27 July 2015 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

Land violations

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
1 June 2015	0800-1230	In the area around Ruwaysat al-Alam inside the occupied Shab'a Farms, the Israeli enemy began to build a road from Ruwaysat al-Alam to the area opposite observation point OP3 of the Indian contingent of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL).
	1305	At the Summaqah post in the occupied Shab'a Farms, the Israeli enemy fired several bursts of medium-weapons fire towards the Syrian herder Husam Ukashah while he was herding livestock near Birkat Ba'tha'il on the outskirts of the town of Kafr Shuba inside Lebanese territory.
	1600	On the outskirts of the town of Shab'a at the Shahal locality, an Israeli enemy patrol comprising 15 soldiers violated the line of withdrawal, entering some 50 metres into Lebanese territory. They tried unsuccessfully to abduct the herder Muhammad Zahrah, who fled with his livestock. The enemy patrol then positioned itself at observation point OP2 of the UNIFIL Indian contingent, where there were no personnel present. The enemy patrol left in the direction of the occupied Shab'a Farms at 1715 hours.
2 June 2015	1315	From inside occupied Palestinian territory near the Hanita position opposite the town of Alma al-Sha'b, Israeli enemy personnel blasted rocks on a road that they were renovating. In so doing, they scattered rocks and stones into Lebanese territory near a Lebanese Army patrol, without injury.
	1400-1830	The Israeli enemy continued the road works that were begun on 1 June 2015 in the area around Ruwaysat al-Alam opposite observation points OP3 and OP4 of the UNIFIL Indian contingent.
	1825	While an Israeli Army enemy patrol comprising two vehicles was passing on the dirt road adjacent to the technical fence, near the Bayad position opposite the town of Blida, its soldiers directed obscene hand gestures and offensive and provocative noises at Lebanese Army soldiers inside the Bi'r Shu'ayb observation point. The enemy patrol then continued on its way towards the Bayad position.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
3 June 2015	1000	Inside the occupied Shab'a Farms at the Jabal al-Rus-Saddanah locality, the Israeli enemy continued the building work that was begun on 1 June 2015 at that location opposite observation points OP3 and OP4 of the UNIFIL Indian contingent, using a D9 bulldozer and two trench diggers escorted by a patrol comprising 15 soldiers and two Merkava tanks. They left in the direction of occupied territory at 1800 hours.
4 June 2015	0750	Opposite Sahl al-Khiyam, an israeli enemy patrol comprising two four-wheel drive vehicles arrived. Five soldiers stepped out and positioned themselves along the technical fence. One of them shouted at a person named Mahmud Sarhan while he was herding livestock in Sahl al-Khiyam inside Lebanese territory, using provocative language in Arabic. When he was unable to get his attention, the enemy soldier directed insults, curses and obscene language towards him.
	0930-1645	The Israeli enemy finished the road works that had begun on 1 June 2015 in the area around Ruwaysat al-Alam opposite observation points OP3 and OP4 of the UNIFIL Indian contingent.
7 June 2015	1930-2000	Inside the occupied Shab'a Farms, the Israeli enemy opened fire with medium and light weapons.
8 June 2015	0800	Inside the occupied Shab'a Farms between the Ruwaysat al-Alam post and observation point OP4 of the UNIFIL Indian contingent, the Israeli enemy installed iron posts and strung them with barbed wire in the area to which Lebanon maintains a claim.
	1550-1635	In the area around the Ruwaysat al-Alam post in the occupied Shab'a Farms, the Israeli enemy fired intermittent bursts of medium-weapons fire. Explosions were also heard in the Shab'a Farms.
9 June 2015	0620	Inside occupied Palestinian territory opposite the Maysat checkpoint, an Israeli enemy patrol comprising 30 soldiers arrived with a dog. They opened the gate, crossed the technical fence and went down along the bank of the Wazzani river without crossing the Blue Line. They then conducted a foot patrol in the direction of pillar No. 40. A Merkava tank also arrived opposite the checkpoint and positioned itself behind the earthen berm inside occupied territory. The patrol left in the direction of occupied territory at 0845 hours.
	1030-1445	Inside the occupied Shab'a Farms, an Israeli enemy patrol comprising five soldiers and two tanks arrived at the Ruwaysat al-Alam locality opposite observation point OP3 of the UNIFIL Indian contingent. They took down the Lebanese flag that had been placed on the barbed wire fence that day by Deputy Qasim Hashim and a group of youths.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
	1750-1900	Israeli enemy forces fired several artillery shells and bursts of gunfire from their positions in the occupied Shab'a Farms in the direction of the area adjacent to those positions.
11 June 2015	1300	On the outskirts of Kafr Shuba opposite Birkat Ba'tha'il, Israeli enemy personnel erected two earthen berms and raised the flag of the Zionist entity above them, as well as another yellow flag (the banner of the unit deployed in the occupied Shab'a Farms). They also erected a tent near the earthen berm on the occupied side.
12 June 2015	0800	On the outskirts of the town of Kafr Shuba at the Birkat Ba'tha'il locality, an Israeli enemy patrol comprising eight soldiers crossed the line of withdrawal, entering some 50 metres into liberated Lebanese territory. Two of the patrol's soldiers took up combat positions near an old container adjacent to the line of withdrawal. Four others positioned themselves behind trees. The two remaining soldiers advanced to observation point OP4-14 of the UNIFIL Indian contingent located near the location. The enemy patrol left in the direction of occupied territory at 0816 hours.
	2025-2115	From inside the occupied Shab'a Farms, the Israeli enemy fired two flare bombs accompanied by bursts of medium machine-gun fire in the area around Ruwaysat al-Alam inside the Shab'a Farms.
14 June 2015	0530	In the occupied Shab'a Farms on the outskirts of Ruwaysat al-Alam, the Israeli enemy completed the road works that had begun on 1 June 2015 opposite observation point OP3 of the UNIFIL Indian contingent.
	1147	From inside the occupied Shab'a Farms opposite the Lebanese Army Maysat checkpoint, an Israeli enemy patrol comprising five Land Rover vehicles and two Humvees arrived, and 12 soldiers stepped out. They crossed the iron gate and walked along the technical fence towards observation point OP8. At 1203 hours, two Humvee vehicles and a Land Rover crossed the iron gate in the technical fence by some 50 metres. One of the vehicles pointed a 12.07 mm calibre machine gun at the Lebanese Army Maysat position.
	1400	Inside Shab'a Farms at the Zarqa locality, an Israeli enemy patrol crossed the line of withdrawal, entering some 150 metres into Lebanese territory, and tried to abduct the herders Yusuf Zahrah, Khidr Nab'ah and Muhammad Hashim, who managed to flee towards the town of Shab'a. The enemy patrol subsequently led the livestock towards occupied territory. All of the livestock returned towards the town of Shab'a at 1730 hours.
16 June 2015	0600-0900	Several explosions were heard coming from inside the occupied Shab'a Farms.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
17 June 2015	1515-1540	From its position in Jall al-Alam opposite Labbunah, an Israeli enemy soldier aimed a vehicle-mounted MAG machine gun and directed curses in Arabic at Lebanese Army soldiers while conducting a patrol on the border between Lebanon and occupied Palestine.
23 June 2015	0700-0900	Several explosions were heard from inside the occupied Shab'a Farms, interspersed with intermittent combing of the area by the Israeli enemy with medium machine gun fire inside the Farms.
	2150	From inside occupied territory opposite Kafr Killa, an Israeli enemy vehicle directed a searchlight at Lebanese territory.
25 June 2015	0800-0900	Several explosions were heard from inside the occupied Shab'a Farms. The Israeli enemy also fired several bursts of medium weapons fire at the area around its positions.
	1030	While an Israeli enemy patrol was inspecting sensors on the technical fence inside occupied Palestinian territory opposite the Kafr Killa-Udaysah road near crossing B82, one of its soldiers directed an offensive expression at a Lebanese Army patrol located on the Lebanese side. The enemy patrol left in the direction of occupied territory at 1140 hours.

Sea violations

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
6 June 2015	0622	Opposite Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch violated the southern maritime boundary established by Decree No. 6433 (2011) of 1 October 2011. Over a period of five minutes, the launch travelled some 500 metres into Lebanese territorial waters before leaving in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters.
7 June 2015	2130	From inside occupied Palestinian territory opposite Ra's al-Naqurah, Israeli enemy soldiers directed a searchlight at Lebanese territorial waters for 30 seconds.
9 June 2015	0357	Opposite Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch violated the southern maritime boundary established by Decree No. 6433 (2011). Over a period of three minutes, the launch travelled some 375 metres into Lebanese territorial waters before leaving in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters. At 0403 hours, it violated the boundary again. Over a period of two minutes, the launch travelled some 375 metres into Lebanese territorial waters before leaving in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
	0405	From inside occupied Palestinian territory, an Israeli enemy military launch directed a searchlight at Lebanese territorial waters for 10 seconds.
	2105-2225	From inside occupied Palestinian territory at its position opposite Ra's al-Naqurah, the Israeli enemy directed a searchlight at Lebanese territorial waters for two periods of 20 minutes and 15 minutes.
10 June 2015	0020-0046	From inside occupied Palestinian territory at its position opposite Ra's al-Naqurah, the Israeli enemy directed a searchlight at Lebanese territorial waters for two periods of five minutes and four minutes, and also threatened a Lebanese fishing vessel located in Lebanese territorial waters in Arabic over a loudspeaker.
	0033	Opposite Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch violated the southern maritime boundary established by Decree No. 6433 (2011). Over a period of six minutes, the launch travelled some 375 metres into Lebanese territorial waters before leaving in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters.
	0049-0434	Opposite Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch violated the southern maritime boundary established by Decree No. 6433 (2011) three times, the first for a period of 41 minutes, and the second and third for a period of two minutes each. In the course of those second and third periods, the launch travelled some 370 metres into Lebanese territorial waters before leaving in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters.
11 June 2015	2305-2310	From inside occupied Palestinian territory, an Israeli enemy military launch directed a searchlight at a Lebanese fishing vessel located in Lebanese territorial waters.
	2311	Opposite Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch violated the southern maritime boundary established by Decree No. 6433 (2011). The launch travelled some 320 metres into Lebanese territorial waters over a two-minute period before leaving in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters.
12 June 2015	2115	From inside occupied Palestinian territory at its position opposite Ra's al-Naqurah, the Israeli enemy directed a searchlight at Lebanese territorial waters for 10 seconds.
21 June 2015	1321	Opposite Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch violated the southern maritime boundary established by Decree No. 6433 (2011). The launch travelled some 185 metres into Lebanese territorial waters over a two-minute period before leaving in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
23 June 2015	1804	Opposite Ra's al-Naqurah, an Israeli enemy military launch violated the southern maritime boundary established by Decree No. 6433 (2011). The launch travelled some 260 metres into Lebanese territorial waters over a six-minute period before leaving in the direction of occupied Palestinian territorial waters.
25 June 2015	0108	From inside occupied Palestinian territory at its position opposite Ra's al-Naqurah, the Israeli enemy directed a searchlight at Lebanese territorial waters for one minute.

Air violations

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
1 June 2015	0600	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b. It circled over the Western Bekaa and the South before leaving at 1700 hours over Rumaysh.
	1000	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Naqurah. It circled over the Shuf, the South, Beirut and its suburbs, Riyaq and Baalbek before leaving at 2250 hours over Kafr Killa.
2 June 2015	0700	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b. It circled over the South before leaving at 1420 hours over Rumaysh.
	0840	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek, Hirmil and the South before leaving at 2100 hours over Naqurah.
3 June 2015	0800	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek, Hirmil and Beirut and its suburbs before leaving at 2300 hours over Alma al-Sha'b.
4 June 2015	1010	Two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. They circled over all regions of Lebanon before leaving at 1140 hours over the sea off Naqurah.
5 June 2015	0600	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over the South before leaving at 1120 hours over Rumaysh.
	0815	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and the South before leaving at 2100 hours over Rumaysh.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
7 June 2015	1010	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Naqurah. It circled over Beirut and its suburbs and the Matn district as far as Jubayl before leaving at 1545 hours over Naqurah.
	1025	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Aytarun. It circled over the South and Iqlim al-Kharrub before leaving at 1520 hours over Naqurah.
	1205	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh. It circled over the South before leaving at 1840 hours over Alma al-Sha'b.
	1800	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Naqurah. It circled over Beirut, Juniyah and Jubayl, and then over the sea off Shikka, before leaving at 2100 hours over Naqurah.
8 June 2015	0800	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh. It circled over Hirmil, Baalbek and Riyaq before leaving at 2000 hours over Naqurah.
	0805	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over the South before leaving at 0820 hours over Kafr Killa.
	0845	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh. It circled over the South before leaving at 1325 hours over Kafr Killa.
	1000	Four Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea west of Shikka. They circled over all regions of Lebanon before leaving at 1325 hours over Kafr Killa.
11 June 2015	1140	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Aytarun. It circled over the South before leaving at 1455 hours over Aytarun.
13 June 2015	1700	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 2000 hours over Naqurah.
14 June 2015	0720	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 1640 hours over Kafr Killa.
15 June 2015	0905	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 1520 hours over Rumaysh.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
	0940	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the occupied Shab'a Farms. It circled over the South before leaving at 1200 hours over Naqurah.
	1000	Two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Aytarun heading north. They left at 1015 hours over the sea off Shikka.
	1050	Two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Shikka. They circled over all regions of Lebanon before leaving at 1225 hours over the sea off Naqurah.
16 June 2015	0940	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh. It circled over the South and the Shuf before leaving at 1405 hours over the sea off Naqurah.
	1045	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Naqurah. It circled over Beirut and its suburbs, Iqlim al-Kharrub, Tripoli and Batrun before leaving at 1610 hours over Rumaysh.
	1230	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Naqurah. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 1430 hours over Naqurah.
17 June 2015	1250	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over the South before leaving at 1820 hours over Alma al-Sha'b.
18 June 2015	0640	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 2130 hours over Kafr Killa.
	1010	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 1625 hours over Kafr Killa.
19 June 2015	0700	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over the South before leaving at 0915 hours over Rumaysh.
	1055	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over the South, Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 2000 hours over Kafr Killa.
	1245	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 1750 hours over Naqurah.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
20 June 2015	0710	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea west of Naqurah. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 2010 hours over the sea west of Naqurah.
	1430	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b. It circled over the South before leaving at 2030 hours over Naqurah.
21 June 2015	0645	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over Riyaq and Baalbek before leaving at 1735 hours over Rumaysh.
22 June 2015	0615	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b. It circled over Beirut and its suburbs before leaving at 1600 hours over the occupied Shab'a Farms.
	2330	An Israeli enemy warplane violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Ra's al-Naqurah. It circled over Lebanese territorial waters and fired a flare bomb.
23 June 2015	0820	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Shab'a Farms. It circled over the Western Bekaa before leaving at 1915 hours over Rumaysh.
	1325	Two Israeli enemy warplanes violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. They circled over all regions of Lebanon before leaving at 1450 hours over the sea off Naqurah.
	1520	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over the sea off Sidon. It circled over Iqlim al-Kharrub, Sidon, Juniyah and Beirut and its suburbs before leaving at 1900 hours over Naqurah.
24 June 2015	0620	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Naqurah. It circled over the South before leaving at 1700 hours over Rumaysh.
	0740	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh. It circled over the South, Iqlim al-Kharrub, Beirut and its suburbs, Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 1905 hours over Naqurah.
	1020	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over the South and Iqlim al-Kharrub before leaving at 1445 hours over Naqurah.
25 June 2015	0600	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh. It circled over the Western Bekaa, the South and Beirut and its suburbs before leaving at 2230 hours over Alma al-Sha'b.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
	1710	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek, Hirmil and the South before leaving at 0700 hours on 26 June 2015 over Alma al-Sha'b.
	2000	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Alma al-Sha'b. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 0715 hours on 26 June 2015 over Kafr Killa.
26 June 2015	0530	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh. It circled over Beirut and its suburbs before leaving at 1400 hours over Alma al-Sha'b.
	0730	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 1330 hours over Rumaysh.
	1100	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 2040 hours over Rumaysh.
	1930	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 0510 hours on 27 June 2015 over Kafr Killa.
27 June 2015	0510	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 1645 hours over Rumaysh.
	1330	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 2025 hours over Kafr Killa.
	1910	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 0750 hours on 28 June 2015 over Rumaysh.
28 June 2015	0705	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 1530 hours over Alma al-Sha'b.
	1505	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 0030 hours on 29 June 2015 over Alma al-Sha'b.
	2200	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 0445 hours on 29 June 2015 over Rumaysh.
29 June 2015	0415	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 1600 hours over Rumaysh.

Date	*Time*	*Nature of violation*
	1220	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 1730 hours over Kafr Killa.
	2254	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 0740 hours on 30 June 2015 over Kafr Killa.
30 June 2015	0620	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 1600 hours over Kafr Killa.
	1415	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Kafr Killa. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 0015 hours on 1 July 2015 over Kafr Killa.
	2125	An Israeli enemy reconnaissance aircraft violated Lebanese airspace, entering over Rumaysh. It circled over Riyaq, Baalbek and Hirmil before leaving at 0930 hours on 1 July 2015 over Kafr Killa.

United Nations A/69/998

General Assembly

Distr.: General
5 August 2015

Original: English

Sixty-ninth session
Agenda item 69 (a)
Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance: strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations

Letter dated 4 August 2015 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to refer to General Assembly resolution 60/124, by which the Assembly established the Central Emergency Response Fund Advisory Group to advise me on the use and impact of the Fund. In accordance with the provisions of paragraph 21 of the resolution, I hereby transmit a note on the first meeting of 2015 of the Advisory Group, which was held in Geneva on 28 and 29 May (see annex).

As summarized in the note, the Advisory Group reiterated that the Fund was a successful and valuable mechanism and expressed its appreciation to the Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Fund secretariat for their management of the Fund.

The members received a briefing on the use and management of the Fund until mid-May 2015, in particular the critical role of the Fund in supporting regional emergency response efforts in the Central African Republic, Nepal, Nigeria, South Sudan and the Syrian Arab Republic. The Advisory Group welcomed the opportunity to interact with the Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator for Colombia, the Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator for Eritrea and the Resident Coordinator for Sierra Leone and their demonstration of the strategic use of the Fund.

The Advisory Group received a briefing on two scoping studies on the future of the Fund and acknowledged their importance for the continuing consultation process in that regard. It noted that there was a need to further elaborate on the added value of a potential expansion of the Fund and to carefully consider the current reliance of the Fund on a few of its top donors for most of its funding. The members emphasized the opportunity that the 10-year anniversary of the Fund, in December 2015, presented for reinforcing resource mobilization efforts and enhancing the Fund's visibility to a wider group of partners.

The Advisory Group heard a briefing on the World Humanitarian Summit process and the work of the High-level Panel on Humanitarian Financing. The members highlighted the importance of strategically positioning the Fund in the

15-13277 (E) 140815

Please recycle

broader context of the 2015 global agenda and the humanitarian financing discussions in the lead-up to the Summit in 2016. They requested the Fund to engage with those processes to ensure that its key strengths and advantages were promoted coherently.

The Advisory Group received a briefing on the outcomes of the evaluation of the use of pooled funds by the World Food Programme and met some representatives of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee. In its interaction with the members of the Committee, the Group focused primarily on the timeliness of partnership arrangements between recipient agencies and their implementing partners, challenges with the visibility of funds and processes for communicating a potential fraudulent use of funds to donors.

The Advisory Group discussed the lessons learned from the use of Fund allocations in large-scale emergencies and the mechanisms and processes in place to deal with potential fraudulent use. The members also considered policy issues, including an update on the quality of resident/humanitarian coordinator reports on the use and impact of funds and an analysis of performance information from such reports from 2013, the Fund's risk management plan, recent efforts to enhance the visibility of the Fund, issues that were important in conveying the story of the Fund to a wide group of stakeholders and the independent review of the added value of the Fund in Myanmar.

The Advisory Group selected Manuel Bessler (Switzerland) as its new Chair and Ahmed al-Meraikhi (Qatar) as its new Vice-Chair. It expressed its appreciation to the outgoing Chair, Catherine Walker (Australia), and the outgoing Vice-Chair, Mathewos Tulu (Ethiopia), for their work and leadership. It also expressed thanks to the other outgoing members whose mandates would end in 2015 — Nancy Butijer (Croatia), Susan Eckey (Norway), Susanna Moorehead (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Yukie Osa (Japan) and Wenliang Yao (China) — for their contribution to the work of the Group.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

Annex

Note on the meeting of the Central Emergency Response Fund Advisory Group (28 and 29 May 2015)

Summary

1. The Central Emergency Response Fund Advisory Group was established by the General Assembly in its resolution 60/124 to advise the Secretary-General, through the Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, on the use and impact of the Fund. The Group's first meeting of 2015 was held in Geneva on 28 and 29 May and was chaired by Catherine Walker (Australia).

2. The Assistant Secretary-General and Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator provided a briefing on the use and management of the Fund until mid-May 2015. The meeting afforded an opportunity for the members of the Advisory Group to interact directly with the Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator for Colombia, the Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator for Eritrea and the Resident Coordinator for Sierra Leone. The Group received a briefing from the authors of two scoping studies on the future of the Fund (on the added value of a reformed fund and on a review of the potential for assessed funding). It also heard a briefing on the World Humanitarian Summit process and the work of the High-level Panel on Humanitarian Financing.

3. The members discussed the lessons learned from the use of Fund allocations in large-scale emergencies and the mechanisms and processes in place to deal with potential fraudulent use and for communicating potential fraud cases to donors. The Advisory Group also received and considered updates on key policy issues, including an update on the quality of resident/humanitarian coordinator reports on the use and impact of funds and an analysis of performance information from such reports from 2013, the Fund's risk management plan, recent efforts to enhance the visibility of the Fund, issues that were important in conveying the story of the Fund to a wide group of stakeholders and the independent review of the added value of the Fund in Myanmar.

4. The Advisory Group heard a briefing on the outcomes of the evaluation of the use of pooled funds by the World Food Programme (WFP) and met representatives of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee. In its interaction with the members of the Committee, the Group focused primarily on the timeliness of partnership arrangements between recipient agencies and their implementing partners, challenges with the visibility of funds and processes for communicating potential fraudulent use of funds to donors. Further to those discussions, the Group would like to make the observations and recommendations set out below.

Observations, conclusions and recommendations

5. The Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator informed the Advisory Group that the Fund had committed $171 million to 29 countries and territories from January to mid-May 2015. She provided an update on the continuous efforts by the Fund secretariat to ensure the strategic use of funds, in particular through strengthened guidance on prioritization of needs for allocations and the revamped training framework targeting decision makers in the field. She highlighted the Fund's

regional approach in responding to humanitarian needs in countries affected by regional crises and noted that the Fund was increasingly required to respond with rapid response grants to the new elements of protracted humanitarian situations that many recipient countries were facing. She provided an update on the first round of allocations from the underfunded emergencies window for 2015, noting that priority had been accorded to responses with regard to the crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic, the Great Lakes region, Colombia, Djibouti and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea. She emphasized that the financial requirements for protracted situations were vastly greater than those for new emergencies, giving the Fund limited flexibility to respond in the light of its mandated split between its rapid response window (two thirds) and its underfunded emergencies window (one third).

6. She also provided an update on the roll-out of Umoja and an overview of contributions received by the Fund for 2015. She noted that, while the Fund remained in a good financial position to respond to the new and current emergencies and enjoyed strong support from donors, as demonstrated by the fact that the high-level conference held in December 2014 had seen the second-highest amount ever pledged ($418.6 million), currency fluctuations and the strong United States dollar would have an impact on the projected income for 2015. The Advisory Group acknowledged that the contributions from donors for 2014 had been the highest ever received, while emphasizing that the reliance on a few top donors for most of the funding was unsustainable in the long term and additional efforts were required to broaden and deepen the donor base. The Group expressed its appreciation to the Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator and the Fund secretariat for their management of the Fund.

7. The Advisory Group welcomed the opportunity to interact with the Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator for Colombia, the Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator for Eritrea and the Resident Coordinator for Sierra Leone and their demonstration of the strategic use of the Fund. The Group was encouraged to hear of the Fund's life-saving impact, that the use of funds in Colombia had been well coordinated with the Government and the country-based emergency response fund and that the Fund had assisted the Resident/Humanitarian Coordinator with advocacy and broader resource mobilization. It also welcomed the fact that funds in Eritrea had been leveraged as an enabler of humanitarian space and had helped to strengthen the position of the Humanitarian Coordinator. The Group noted, however, that overreliance on the Fund owing to the lack of alternative funding in both settings was unsustainable. It noted with appreciation that the allocations provided in 2014 to Sierra Leone and other West African countries, albeit limited in size, had been instrumental and catalytic in promoting a regional response to the Ebola outbreak owing to their speed, timeliness and regional approach.

8. The Advisory Group welcomed the update by the Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator on the World Humanitarian Summit and the High-level Panel on Humanitarian Financing, highlighting the importance of strategically positioning the Fund in the broader context of the 2015 global agenda and the humanitarian financing discussions in the lead-up to the Summit in 2016. The members requested the Fund to engage with those processes to ensure that its key strengths and advantages were promoted coherently. The Group also considered the opportunity that the 10-year anniversary of the Fund, in December 2015, presented for redoubling resource mobilization efforts and enhancing the Fund's visibility, noting that, after a decade of operations, the Fund was very well regarded as a valuable

mechanism and its success should be taken into consideration as the discussions on development and humanitarian financing at the broader level progressed.

9. The Advisory Group heard a briefing by the Deputy Emergency Relief Coordinator and the authors of two recently concluded studies into the feasibility of adjusting the Fund's annual funding target that had explored United Nations assessed contributions as a potential funding modality, among other potential adjustments. It had been emphasized in the studies that the Fund had been commended for being focused on life-saving action and fast, simple and well managed. In the future the Fund should retain those characteristics, but could be given greater flexibility in allocating funds when it came to the split between the rapid response and underfunded emergencies windows. It had been noted that, should the Fund be expanded, which was unlikely to happen through United Nations assessed contributions, any new target should be realistic and achievable and not come at the expense of existing humanitarian resources.

10. The Advisory Group welcomed the studies and acknowledged their importance for the continuing consultation process on the future of the Fund. It reiterated that the Fund was a successful and valuable mechanism that filled a critical niche in responding to rapid-onset and underfunded emergencies. Regarding the potential expansion of the Fund, the Group emphasized that there was a need to further elaborate on the added value of an expanded fund and to take into consideration the current reliance of the Fund on a few of its top donors for most of its funding. The Group recommended that the Fund secretariat should further explore the barriers restricting some donors from increasing their support to the Fund, that resource mobilization efforts targeting donors currently not among the top 10 supporters should be strengthened and that other potential sources of funding should be explored.

11. Considering the potential fraudulent use of funds and challenges in communicating fraud cases, the Advisory Group reiterated that fraud posed a serious risk to humanitarian action and to the reputation of the Fund and the United Nations. The Group welcomed the guidance developed by the Fund secretariat for communicating potential cases of fraud affecting projects financed by the Fund and implemented by recipient agencies and their implementing partners. The Group noted that the guidance, which was a decisive step in the right direction, should be considered in the context of broader system-wide processes associated with risk and fraud management in order to ensure the coherent treatment of fraud within the United Nations. The Group also requested to be kept informed about the issue and to be notified at its regular meetings of potential fraud cases communicated to the Fund and their status.

12. The Advisory Group welcomed the analysis prepared by the Fund secretariat on the lessons learned from the use of the Fund in large-scale humanitarian crises that had been subject to humanitarian system-wide emergency activation (level 3 emergency activation), with particular focus on the implementation of one of the automatically triggered protocols that envisaged an automatic allocation from the Fund once an emergency had been declared a level 3 emergency. The Group endorsed the practice established by the Emergency Relief Coordinator that, in each level 3 emergency, allocations from the Fund would be considered on a case-by-case basis because the impact of the funding would depend on a range of factors, including the timing, strategy and focus of the request and complementarity with

other resources. Given that each emergency was different, a one-size-fits-all approach was not appropriate.

13. The Advisory Group was encouraged by the update on the quality of the resident/humanitarian coordinator reports and welcomed the analysis of key performance data from the 2013 reports on the use of funds, which was the most comprehensive analysis through a full annual funding cycle and helped to document the Fund's results, its added value and its impact for external audiences.

14. The Advisory Group acknowledged the recent improvements in Fund communication and advocacy efforts and welcomed new initiatives to convey the story of the Fund in a timely, simple and compelling fashion. It highlighted the need to continue to communicate the success of the Fund to a wide group of stakeholders, emphasizing that there was a need for high-level advocacy to position the Fund as a partner of choice for resource mobilization. The Group also received an update on the semi-annual Fund risk management plan and again acknowledged its importance for risk mitigation and advocacy purposes. The Group also acknowledged the independent review of the added value of the Fund in Myanmar, which offered valuable insights into operations financed by the Fund in that country.

15. The Advisory Group took note of the presentation by WFP on its evaluation of the use of pooled funds and, in particular, its recommendations pertaining to the use of the Fund. WFP was encouraged to take further steps to enhance the visibility and transparency of the use of funding from the Fund and to further demonstrate how it was addressing the issue of timeliness of implementation through partners. The Group encouraged WFP to act on the recommendations in a timely manner and the Fund secretariat to engage with WFP on follow-up.

16. The Advisory Group welcomed the opportunity to meet and exchange views with the recipient agencies of funds and other representatives of the Inter-Agency Standing Committee. While acknowledging the progress made since the timeliness of the disbursement and implementation of subgrants under the projects financed by the Fund had been on its agenda, the Group reiterated that the rapid disbursement of funds from agencies to their implementing partners remained central to the Fund's life-saving mandate and key to maintaining the Fund's reputation as an effective humanitarian financing mechanism. The Group welcomed measures and best practice to improve the timeliness of arrangements between recipient agencies and their implementing partners already put in place, such as the revision of partnership agreements by the United Nations Children's Fund and encouraged other agencies to demonstrate action taken. Further to the discussion on the challenges of ensuring the visibility of the Fund at the field level with implementing partners, the Group encouraged the Fund secretariat and recipient agencies to work together towards ensuring awareness and visibility of the Fund in the field among implementing partners.

Administrative matters

17. Manuel Bessler (Switzerland) was selected as the new Chair and Ahmed al-Meraikhi (Qatar) as the new Vice-Chair of the Advisory Group.

18. The Advisory Group expressed its appreciation to the outgoing Chair, Catherine Walker (Australia), and the outgoing Vice-Chair, Mathewos Tulu (Ethiopia), for their work and leadership. It also expressed thanks to the other

members whose mandates would end in 2015 — Nancy Butijer (Croatia), Susan Eckey (Norway), Susanna Moorehead (United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland), Yukie Osa (Japan) and Wenliang Yao (China) — for their contribution to its work.

19. The next meeting of the Advisory Group is to be held in New York in October 2015.

United Nations A/69/999–S/2015/593

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
6 August 2015
English
Original: Arabic

General Assembly
Sixty-ninth session
Agenda items 68 (c) and 107

Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives

Measures to eliminate international terrorism

Security Council
Seventieth year

Identical letters dated 3 August 2015 from the Permanent Representative of Jordan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council

On instructions from our Government, we should like to inform you that we reject the baseless allegations made against Jordan in the identical letters dated 28 June 2015 from the Permanent Representative of the Syrian Arab Republic to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General and the President of the Security Council (S/2015/488), in which he sets out the position of his regime regarding Security Council resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014) and 2191 (2014).

Since the start of the Syrian crisis, Jordan has expressed its complete solidarity with the Syrian people as it confronts the ever-worsening humanitarian crisis. Jordan will remain at the forefront of those States that continue to strive assiduously to alleviate their suffering by facilitating the entry into Syria of relief supplies destined for civilians, in accordance with the relevant Security Council resolutions, which Jordan helped to draft and build an international consensus for when it was a member of the Security Council. Jordan continues to bear the heavy burden of hosting an ever-increasing number of Syrian refugees, the majority of whom are women and children, notwithstanding its limited capacities and resources, and despite having to contend with the repercussions of many of the conflicts in the region.

Contrary to the accusations made by the Syrian regime, Jordan has built a strong partnership with United Nations humanitarian agencies since the start of the Syrian crisis and has sought to facilitate their work, so that they can provide assistance to Syrian refugees, whether in the refugee camps or inside Syria, through the mechanisms established pursuant to the relevant Security Council resolutions. In that connection, Jordan commends the efforts of those agencies and the objectivity of the Secretary-General's reports regarding the implementation of the resolutions.

15-13333 (E) 120815 140815

Please recycle

Those reports have conveyed to the world the miserable humanitarian conditions in Syria that have been caused by the Syrian regime's barbaric practices, including attacks against Syrian civilians using barrel bombs and deadly arms.

The Syrian regime continues to commit grave violations of international humanitarian law and human rights, thereby fuelling terrorism and extremism in Syria and threatening the region and the entire world. As Jordan and influential regional and international actors continue to cooperate constructively with the United Nations in its ongoing efforts to arrive at a political settlement to the crisis, the Syrian regime continues to level baseless accusations against Jordan and other States, instead of responding in a positive manner to the efforts aimed at bring about security and stability in Syria. The repetition of those inflammatory accusations and of the false and misleading narrative regarding what is happening in Syria reflects the isolation of the Syrian regime and its lack of desire and political will to arrive at a political solution to the crisis. Indeed, that repetition is aimed at distracting attention from its practices against innocent civilians, which it justifies on the grounds of countering terrorism.

Jordan reaffirms that it has consistently combated terrorism and extremism in all their forms and manifestations, whatever their source, because they are contrary to religious and moral teachings and values. Jordan also reiterates that it has unwaveringly fought against terrorism and extremism, and that all of its institutions will continue to confront terrorism comprehensively by stepping up their efforts and by coordinating and consulting with regional and international actors to consolidate security and stability in the region. Jordan condemns the vain efforts by the Permanent Representative of Syria to have the baseless allegations against Jordan taken seriously, when Jordan has long stood as an example of how to combat terrorism at all levels.

Lastly, we should like to once again call on the international community to deal firmly and swiftly with the Syrian regime in order to ensure compliance with the relevant Security Council resolutions, including resolutions 2139 (2014), 2165 (2014), 2191 (2014) and 2199 (2015); the resolutions of the General Assembly, including resolution 69/189; and international humanitarian law and human rights principles.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 68 (c) and 107, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Dina **Kawar**
Permanent Representative

United Nations A/69/1000–S/2015/603

General Assembly
Security Council

Distr.: General
6 August 2015

Original: English

General Assembly
Sixty-ninth session
Agenda item 50
United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East

Security Council
Seventieth year

Identical letters dated 5 August 2015 from the Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Security Council

I write to draw the urgent attention of the international community to the serious financial crisis being experienced by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)and to echo the appeals made by the Commissioner-General of the Agency, Pierre Krähenbühl, in his special report of 3 August 2015 and at the extraordinary session of the Advisory Commission of UNRWA on 26 July 2015, as well as the appeals by the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly for the provision of immediate support and adequate resources to overcome this crisis and preserve the Agency's core services and programmes, on which the Palestine refugees,, including the 500,000 children who attend UNRWA schools, are reliant.

At the same time that the Palestine refugees, comprising more than 5 million persons, representing the largest and most protracted refugee crisis in the world, are facing one of the most severe crises since *Al Nakba* of 1948, a crisis many have deemed to be existential, UNRWA is also facing an unprecedented crisis that is undermining its ability to uphold its mandate in accordance with the relevant General Assembly resolutions, starting from its establishment by resolution 302 (IV) of 8 December 1949 until the present, with the most recent resolutions having been adopted by the General Assembly at its sixty-ninth session. The current financial shortfall in the UNRWA core budget, which exceeds $100 million, and the chronic structural underfunding endured for decades by the Agency, are seriously threatening the viability, continuity and quality of its vital education, health, relief and social services in all of its fields of operation, namely in Jordan, Lebanon, Syria and the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, as well as its emergency assistance capacity during periods of crisis.

In this regard, we underscore the longstanding and significant contribution of UNRWA services with regard to the humanitarian subsistence, human development

Please recycle

and protection of the Palestine refugees, which have alleviated the hardships of their plight and provided them with opportunities for learning and development and the chance to lead healthy and stable lives, pending the achievement of a just solution on the basis of resolution 194 (III). UNRWA has also contributed significantly to regional stability for more than six decades, including during recurrent periods of crisis and upheaval in the Middle East, a fact fully recognized by the General Assembly.

These facts also compel us to underscore the far-reaching negative implications of a failure to immediately and sufficiently address UNRWA's financial crisis and to duly alert the international community. The numerous negative consequences of a suspension of any of the core services and programmes operated by the Agency include severe humanitarian, political, security, economic and social consequences, as well as psychosocial consequences, for the Palestine refugee community. In addition, the negative implications for the host countries, as well as for the region, which is experiencing dramatic instability as a result of ongoing, unresolved conflicts and crises and rising extremism, cannot be ignored.

In this regard, as indicated in the report of the Commissioner-General, in the event that the financial deficit should remain unfulfilled, the consequent suspension of the UNRWA education programme will affect the functioning of: nearly 700 schools throughout the areas of operation, thus denying education to a half million girls and boys, denying them the community, protection, development and dignity that schooling guarantees them and exposing them to further risk; the functioning of the eight vocational centres that provide training for approximately 7,000 youth, opportunities for them to obtain their livelihoods thereafter; and the 22,000 staff members, including teachers, administrators and other school workers, who will not be paid their salaries during the suspension, including the families they support and their wider communities during this already unstable and highly uncertain period, deepening their concern and their anxiety that they are being abandoned by the international community. It will also seriously affect all the host countries, which will be faced with rising discontent and frustration and additional needs on the part of the Palestine refugee community, in addition to the many responsibilities and the weight they already bear in this regard.

Urgent action is therefore required to address the Agency's current funding crisis and to avert such negative consequences, which would further intensify the hardships and the human suffering that is already being endured by the Palestine refugees. We urge Member States to respond to the Agency's appeals and the rising needs and requirements of the refugees in the context of the extremely unstable and deteriorating humanitarian and security situation on the ground in all fields of operation, especially in the Gaza Strip following the Israeli military aggression of July and August 2014 and the eight-year Israeli blockade, and in Syria, as a result of the ongoing conflict there, which has impacted the refugee communities in Jordan and Lebanon. It is imperative also to note that the Agency's expenses have risen further in recent years due to United Nations system-wide requirements and reform demands that have affected the solvency of the General Fund. We urge the adoption of immediate efforts, in particular to remedy the $100 million deficit and ensure the continuity of the education programme, which comprises over 60 per cent of the Agency's core budget, allowing the 2015-2016 school year for Palestine refugee children to begin on time along with all the schools in the host countries.

We recall in this regard that over 97 per cent of the Agency's income is from voluntary contributions, recognize the longstanding generosity of the major donors over many years and pay tribute in this regard to the members of the Advisory Commission for their consistently strong support for the Agency's important humanitarian mission. We also recall the repeated appeals made by the General Assembly, most recently in its resolutions 69/86 and 69/88 of 5 December 2014, inter alia, urging "all States, the specialized agencies and non-governmental organizations to support the Agency's valuable and necessary work in assisting the Palestine refugees in all fields of operation by providing or increasing their contributions to the Agency in order to address the serious financial constraints and underfunding affecting the Agency's regular budget, noting that financial needs have been exacerbated by conflicts and instability in the recent period and the deteriorating humanitarian situation on the ground", as well as the affirmations of "the necessity for the continuation of the work of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East and the importance of its unimpeded operation and its provision of services, including emergency assistance, for the well-being, protection and human development of the Palestine refugees and for the stability of the region, pending the just resolution of the question of the Palestine refugees".

We thus reiterate the appeal for funding for the UNRWA General Fund, the core funding mechanism, which covers the costs of its workforce of teachers, doctors, nurses, social workers and other staff who run the primary education, health and relief programmes of the Agency, and to mobilize to ensure that the Agency has the required working capital to uphold its mandate without the constant financial constraints and deficits it has had to contend with, which detract from its vital humanitarian mission in support of the Palestine refugees. At the same time, in light of the prevailing circumstances, we are also compelled to reiterate our call for immediate support for the UNRWA emergency appeals at this most critical time in order to address the urgent humanitarian needs and to prevent further destabilization of the situation in its fields of operation.

We recognize the measures undertaken thus far by UNRWA to address this severe financial crisis, and we welcome the proposals made by the Commissioner-General in his report, including for an "emergency flash appeal" and for measures by the General Assembly to ensure predictable, sustained funding for the human development and protection of Palestine refugees pending a just solution. We respectfully urge Member States to respond to these appeals.

Further in this regard, we must once again underscore the permanent responsibility of the United Nations for the question of Palestine until it is satisfactorily resolved in all its aspects. As stated by the Commissioner-General in the report, this crisis facing UNRWA constitutes a major test of the international community's collective will to find solutions that will allow the Agency to uphold its mandate in support of the Palestine refugees and to continue assisting them and providing them with the hope and dignity that is so central to their resilience. Finding solutions will also be an important reaffirmation of the political commitment of the international community to achieve a just solution to the plight of the Palestine refugees in the context of a peaceful, just settlement to the conflict, in accordance with international law and the relevant United Nations resolutions, that will bring a definitive end to the Israeli occupation and achieve the independence of the State of Palestine, with East Jerusalem as its capital, and the

inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, including the rights to self-determination and return. That solution is long overdue, and more urgent than ever.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the present letter distributed as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 50, and of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Riyad **Mansour**
Ambassador
Permanent Observer of the State of Palestine
to the United Nations